A

DISCOURSE

Written by

Sir *George Downing*,

The King of *Great Britain's Envoy Extraordinary* to the *States* of the *United Provinces*.

Vindicating his *Royal Maſter* from the *Inſolencies* of a *Scandalous Libel*, Printed under the Title of [*An Extract out of the Regiſter of the States General of the United Provinces, upon the Memorial of Sir* George Downing, *Envoy, &c.*] And delivered by the Agent *De Heyde* for *ſuch*, to ſeveral Publick Miniſters.

Whereas no ſuch *Reſolution* was ever Communicated to the ſaid *Envoy*, nor any *Anſwer* returned at all by *Their Lordſhips* to the ſaid *Memorial*.

Whereunto is added a Relation of ſome Former and Later Proceedings of the *HOLLANDERS*: By a Meaner Hand.

LONDON, Printed for *Dorman Newman*, at the Kings Arms in the *Poultrey*, 1672.

Euler.

See P. 175.

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BIBLIOTHECA · BODLEIANA

A Discourse written by Sir George Downing, *the King of* Great Britain's *Envoy Extraordinary to the* State of the United Provinces, *&c.*

THE *Envoy Extraordinary* of His Most Sacred *Majesty* of *Great Britain*, &c. having lately seen a certain Paper entituled, [*An Extract out of the Register of the Resolutions of the High and Mighty Lords Estates General of the United Provinces, upon the Memorial of Sir* George Downing *Envoy Extraordinary from the King of* Great Britain] did not at all think it fit for him to take any notice thereof, but to pass it by as a *Pamphlet* (of which sort there come out too many here every day); in regard that no such *Re-*

solution had been communicated to *Him* by their *Lordships*, nor any one word given him in *Answer* to his said *Memorial*: And he had accordingly past it by, without taking any notice thereof, had he not since by accident been informed by several *Publick Ministers* residing here, That the said pretended *Resolution* had been brought to them by the *Agent de Heyde*: Whereupon he now holds himself obliged to *Complain* in most serious terms to their *Lordships* the *Estates General* of the *United Provinces*, of this strange and irregular way of proceeding; That while he is Residing here on the behalf of the *King* his *Master*, Papers, in form of *Answers* to his *Memorials*, should be given to *other Publick Ministers*, *here* and *elsewhere*, and sent all over the world, and yet concealed from *Him*; and thereby neither opportunity of being convinced,

if any thing of reason should have been said therein, not on the contrary, of vindicating the Honour and Justice of the *King* his *Master* in what he is therein unjustly charged and defamed withal.

Suppose that he the said *Envoy Extraordinary* should have proceeded in that manner, and have given the *Memorial* (to which the said Paper is a Reply) to all *Publick Ministers* residing here; and sent it to all Courts abroad, and should have *Printed* and exposed it to the view of the world, without giving it to their *Lordships*, what would they have thought thereof? and what might have been expected that they would have said to it? Can their *Lordships* imagine that this way of acting doth tend any way to the justifying of their *Cause*, as to the working of better impressions concerning the same in the minds of those *Publick Ministers*, or their

Masters? Or rather, that they must be exceedingly scandalized thereat, as looking more like a *surprise* of them and their Judgments, than otherwise; and considering that they may to morrow be dealt with in like manner, in relation to any Paper they may give in; and see the Affairs of their Masters traduced and defamed, without any opportunity or possibility of clearing the same.

And as to the *Matter* of the said Paper, Is it enough to say in general terms, *That the said* Memorial *was ill grounded, or abusively informed,* without particularizing at all *how,* or *wherein*; or so much as excepting against any one word thereof, much less disproving the same?

And again, If the things wherewith they are charged therein, be *true,* (as they both are, and must now be taken by all men to be, since nothing is made out by their

Lord-

Lordſhips to the contrary) To what purpoſe is the whole ſequel of the ſaid Paper? If it be true (as it is) That the *Royal Maſter* of the ſaid *Envoy*, was no ſooner returned to His Kingdoms, but that He was immediately, and from day to day, troubled and importuned with a Crowd of Complaints of His Subjects againſt thoſe of this Countrey; all which notwithſtanding, His Majeſty did not grant any one *Letter of Marque*, nor betake himſelf to any way of *force* for the obtaining of their reparation and ſatisfaction; But inſtead thereof, for an everlaſting memorial of his great kindneſs and good-will towards this Countrey, and for the facilitating of the bringing to a Concluſion the late *Treaty* with them (finding the *Complaints* and *Pretenſions* of His Subjects to be ſo numerous and great) was pleaſed after all to ſuffer very many of them, and thoſe to a vaſt

value,

value, to be utterly mortified and extinguished; and the rest (except the business of the Ships *Bon-adventure*, and *Bon-Esperanza*) after so much money and time had been already expended in the pursuit thereof, and many of them ready for a determination, to be put in a LIST, and proceeded upon a-new according to the fifteenth *Article* thereof; no ways doubting, but that all possible speed would have thereupon been used in bringing the matter to an issue; and that for the future better order would have been observed towards His Subjects. But having waited now above 27 *Months* since the *Conclusion* of the said *Treaty*, and in that time their *Lordships* being continually call'd upon by His said Majesties *Envoy Extraordinary*, yea by His Majesty Himself in several *Audiences* to their *Embassador*: Yet so it is, that those matters are still so far from being ended,

ended, that in truth they ſeem to be now rather further from it, than at the day of the *ſigning* of the ſaid *Treaty*, and on the other ſide, new injuries daily heaped, and the ſame Deſigns of the *Eaſt* and *Weſt-Indie-Companies* carried on for the utter overthrow of all the *Trade* of His Majeſties Subjects in thoſe parts of the world, as appeared by the buſineſs of the Ships *Hopewell*, *Leopard*, and other Ships in the *Eaſt-Indies*, and by the buſineſs of the *Charles*, *James*, *Mary*, *Sampſon*, *Hopeful*, *Adventurer*, *Speedwell*, &c. upon the Coaſt of *Africa*. All which are matters hapned ſince the *Concluſion* of the ſaid *Treaty*. And after all this, and notwithſtanding His *Parliaments* application to Him upon the account of His aggrieved Subjects, in ſo ſolemn and extraordinary a manner; His Majeſty was yet ſo far from being inclined to any other than ways of accommodation,

on, as that he did by a publick Writing, or *Declaration*, declare, That he would yet try what could be done by amicable endeavours at the *Hague*, before he would make use of any other means (the which was also very well known to their *Lordships*); and did thereupon accordingly give orders to his *Envoy Extraordinary*, to press them afresh: And further to make out his peaceable and moderate intentions, and to take off all *umbrage* from their *Lordships*, to let them know (as accordingly he did in publick Conferences with their Deputies) That His Majesty would not in any kind trouble their Fleets which they then expected from the *Streights* and *East-Indies*, nor their *Fisheries* upon his Coasts; yea, further to put them out of all doubt, ordered a far less equipage of *Shipping* for the *Summer-guard* than had been known these many years: But all this was so far from

work-

working the desired and intended effect, as that on the contrary their *Lordships* betook themselves to Arms in an extraordinary manner, ordering the fitting out with all speed a great *Fleet*, and *hundreds* of *Carpenters* forthwith dispatched to work upon it night and day (Holy-days as well as working-days) whereby His Majesty seeing Himself wholly defeated of His good intentions; and instead of *satisfaction* for His Subjects, braved and threatned with those *equipages*, which could have no other regard but upon Himself, was at last inforced for His own defence, (though very much contrary to His inclinations and intentions) to arm also.

And whereas it may be pretended, as if their *Lordships* having fitted *Their Fleet*, did desire that His Majesty would be pleased (for avoiding of all inconveniences) to keep *His Fleet* within His

Harbours, and that then they would keep in *Theirs* also; It is to be considered, that *This Proposition was not made until that they had actually put to Sea a Fleet near as numerous as the whole that His Majesty was equipping, and which was actually gone towards His Coasts:* so that this could not but be construed to be rather a *mocquery*, than otherwise; for that thereby they had a Fleet at Sea to do what they pleased, and in the mean while His Majesty had tied His own hands, and obliged Himself to keep within doors; but he was yet pleased to assure them, that His (if it did go out) should not do them the least injury; still, in the mean while, pressing here at the *Hague* by His *Minister*, and Himself urging their *Ambassador* at *London*, to hasten the dispatch of the matters in difference: And as a further testimony of His desires of living in good Correspondence

dence with *This Country*, He did declare His willingness to enter into a *Treaty* for the better regulating of the Trade and Navigation of both, and the prevention of such disorders for the future; and for the quicker dispatch and ripening of so good a work, a project thereof was in His Name tendred to them long ago, and yet to this day not one word of answer thereupon.

And if it be also *true* (as it is) that their *Lordships* began the *seizing* of Ships in these Parts, stopping the Ship from *Gottenburg* bound for *London*; and though pressed again and again to set her at liberty, yet still retain'd her, and to this day not so much as a word of answer why, or upon what account.

These things being so, can there be any doubt who is the *Attacquer* or *Aggressor*? unless it must be held for a *Maxim*, That let

their *Lordships* and *Their Subjects* deal with His aforesaid Majesty and His Subjects from time to time, and from year to year, as they please, yet they are not *Attacquers* or *Aggressors*; but if His *Majesty* or *His Subjects*, after never so many years sufferings, and all amicable endeavours first tried, to have obtained their satisfaction, without to this very day having been able to obtain it in any of those numerous *cases* of *piracy* and *violence* committed by the people of *This Countrey* against them, whereof complaint hath been made from time to time unto their *Lordships* by His Majesties *Ministers*: If after all, any thing be done by them towards the righting of themselves, His *Majesty* must be called and reputed the *Attacquer* and the *Aggressor*. Let their *Lordships* make out, That the Complaints in the said *Memorial* are ungrounded, and His Majesty

will

will yeild unto them: but if otherwise, Who wil think it ſtrange if at laſt ſomething be done towards the righting of them.

And as to the *Particulars* mentioned in the ſaid Paper to have been ſuffered by them from the *Engliſh*, though thoſe matters have not been treated of between their *Lordſhips* and the ſaid *Envoy Extraordinary*, but between the King his *Maſter* and their *Ambaſſador* at *London*; ſo that it is not properly his buſineſs to reply thereunto, but to refer them to that Anſwer which His Majeſty hath promiſed to give concerning the ſame; yet ſeeing their *Lordſhips* have been pleaſed not only to mention and inſiſt thereupon in the aforeſaid *Paper*, but indeed to ſay nothing elſe by way of *anſwer* to the *Complaints* in his *Memorial*; he cannot but ſay thus much thereunto:

'That the *Places* and *Ships* said 'to be taken from them, were 'all belonging to the *West-Indie-* '*Company* of *this Country*, and 'nothing complain'd of in the pa- 'per to have been taken from them 'belonging to any else of *These* '*Countries*: And when it shall be 'considered, that in the LIST of '*Damages* alone, there appears to 'have been near *twenty English* '*Ships* successively, within a very 'few years before the conclusion 'of the late *Treaty*, taken in a 'Hostile manner upon the *Coast* 'of *Africa*, only by the *Shipping* 'of the said *West-Indie Company*, 'with their whole Lading, to a 'very great value; and not only 'so, but the men that belonged to 'them, very many of them most 'barbarously and inhumanly treat- 'ed, put into most stinking *dun-* '*geons* and *holes* at *Casteldemina*, 'there to lie in the midst of their 'own excrements, nothing but

'bread

'bread and water given them, and
'thereof not enough to ſuſtain
'Nature; their bodies tortured
'with exquiſite and horrid tor-
'tures; and when any of them
'dyed, the living and the dead left
'together; and ſuch as eſcaped,
'turned out to periſh by hunger
'or wild beaſts in thoſe miſerable
'Countries, or to be carried away
'Captives by the Natives; by
'which means, ſeveral *hundreds*
'of His Majeſties good Subjects
'have periſhed and been deſtroy-
'ed. And to this hour, notwith-
'ſtanding all ſollicitations and en-
'deavours, not one penny of ſa-
'tisfaction given to the perſons
'concerned in any of the ſaid
'Ships; And ever ſince the *Con-*
'*cluſion* of the ſaid *Treaty*, Ships of
'*Warr* have been kept by the ſaid
'*Company* upon the ſaid *Coaſts*;
'which though they have not pro-
'ceeded ſo far as to take more of
'the Shipping of His Majeſties

'Subjects, yet they have done that
'which is equivalent, and as ruin-
'ous to that Trade; ſtopping and
'hindring every one that they met
'withall, from all Commerce; and
'to that effect purſuing them in
'an hoſtile manner from place to
'place: And where-ever any
'*Engliſh* anchored by them, hin-
'dring and ſhooting at, and taking
'by force, with their Ladings, all
'*Boats* of the *Navies* that endea-
'voured to come aboard them,
'and their Boats that would go
'on ſhoar; yea, depriving them
'of ſo much as any proviſion or
'refreſhment of freſh water (as
'appears by the *Complaints* made
'by the ſaid *Envoy Extraordinary*
'from time to time to their *Lord-*
'*ſhips* concerning the ſame): And
'publiſhing a *Declaration* in the
'Name as well of the *States-Ge-*
'*neral*, as of the ſaid *Company*,
'wherein they deduce their right
'to that *whole Coaſt*, to the exclu-

ſion

'ſion of all other Nations: And 'notwithſtanding all *Complaints* 'to their *Lordſhips*, neither the ſaid '*Declaration* diſavowed, nor any 'thing of *Satisfaction* given, but 'ſtill new *Complaints* coming; and 'among others, that of their ha-'ving ſtirr'd up the King of *Fan-'tine* by rewards and ſums of 'money given him to that end; 'and ſupplying him with all ſorts 'of *Arms* and *Ammunition* for the 'ſurprize of His Majeſtie's Caſtle 'at *Cormantine* in thoſe parts; con-'cerning which alſo *proofs* have 'been ſince given to their *Lord-'ſhips* by the ſaid *Envoy Extraor-'dinary*; ſo that there was an ab-'ſolute neceſſity impos'd upon 'His Majeſty and His Subjects, ei-'ther of loſing all that had been 'actually taken from them, and 'withal abandoning for ever that 'Trade it ſelf; or otherwiſe of 'betaking themſelves to ſome o-'ther ways for their relief. And

'it will rather be thought ſtrange 'that their patience did hold out 'ſo long, than that now at laſt 'ſomething ſhould be done to-'wards the righting of them-'ſelves.

Beſides, as to the buſineſs of *Capo Corco*, Did not the ſame *Envoy Extraordinary* long ago complain in the Name, and by Order of the King his *Maſter*, in *publick Conferences* both with the *Deputies* of their *Lordſhips* the *Eſtates General*, and alſo with thoſe of *Holland* in *particular*, of the injurious poſſeſſing and keeping of that place by thoſe of the ſaid *Weſt-Indie-Company*, deducing and remonſtrating at large his Maſter's Right thereunto, the *ground* having been bought by *His Subjects*, of the *King* of *That Country*, for a valuable conſideration, and a *Lodg* or *Factory* built thereupon; and thoſe of the *Weſt-Indie-Com-*

pany

pany of *this Country* being got into the poſſeſſion of the place meerly by *fraud* and *treachery*; but no reflection made thereupon by their *Lordſhips*, much leſs any hopes given of ever obtaining any reſtitution from them. And indeed, if His Majeſty had not been able to reſcue out of their hands the leaſt Boat or penny-worth of Goods ſince His Return to His Kingdoms (concerning which complaint had been made by His *Envoy Extraordinary*, of its being forceably taken by them from His Subjects) what hopes of their quitting to Him any ſuch place? eſpecially remembring that buſineſs of the *Iſland* of *Poleroon* in the *Eaſt Indies*, which hath been a reſtoring by them ever ſince the year 1622, at which time it was by *ſolemn* & *particular Treaty* promiſed to be done; and again, by *another Treaty* in the year 1654: and by Orders of the

Eſtates,

Eſtates General and *Eaſt India Company* of *this Countrey*, in the year 1661: and again, by *Treaty* in the year 1662: and yet to this day we know nothing of its being delivered: And can it be thought ſtrange, if invited thereunto by the *King* of the ſaid *Country*, that His Majeſty ſhould after ſo fair warning condeſcend to ſuffer His Subjects to endeavour to re-poſſeſs themſelves thereof?

And as to the buſineſs of *New-Netherland* (ſo called) this is very far from being a ſurprize, or any thing of that nature; it being notoriouſly known, that *That ſpot of Land* lies within the limits, and is part of the poſſeſſion of His Subjects of *New England*, (as appears moſt evidently by their *Charter*) and that thoſe few *Dutch* that have lived there, have lived there meerly upon connivence and ſufferance, and not as having any

right

right thereunto; and that this hath from time to time, and from year to year, been declared unto them, but yet so as that the *Engliſh* were contented to ſuffer them to remain there, provided they would demean themſelves peaceably and quietly: but that the ſaid *Dutch*, not contenting themſelves therewith, did ſtill endeavour to encroach further and further upon the *Engliſh*, impoſing their *Laws* and *Cuſtoms*, and endeavouring to raiſe *Contributions* and *Exciſes* upon them, and in places where no *Dutch* were or had ever been: Whereupon they have formerly been neceſſitated ſeveral times to ſend Soldiers for the repelling of them.

And as to what is ſaid in the ſaid Paper, as if though the *Engliſh* ſhould formerly have had any *pretence* to the ſaid place, that yet the ſaid *pretence* is cut off by the fifteenth *Article* of the late *Treaty*.

To

To this he doth Reply, That *That Article* doth only cut off matters of *Piracies*, *Robberies*, and *Violence*: but as to the *Rights* and *Inheritances* of *Lands* and *Jurisdictions*, that it doth not at all concern or intermeddle with the same. And that this is so, there needs no other Argument but the producing of several *Examples* out of their own *Courts of Justice*, whereby it will appear, that indeed as to the Plundering and taking of Ships, or the like, that all such causes (if hapned before the time limited in the said *Treaty*) did cease upon the Conclusion thereof; but as to such as were then depending concerning the *Inheritances* of *Lands*, that they have still continued to be pursued: As for Example, The Case of Sir *Thomas Lower*, an *English Man*, for certain *Lands* claimed by him in *Zealand*. Besides, those of *New Neather-lands*, had since the *Con-*

clusion

clusion of the Late *Treaty*, made new *Incursions* upon the *English*, and given them many new *provocations*; and by their *Charters* they have *Jura Belli* within Themselves, without *Appealing* first into *Europe*: And if after all this, His Majesty hath suffered them according thereunto to rescue themselvs from such continued Vexations and Mischiefs; Can *Any Prince* think it strange, or be surprized thereat, much less *the most Christian King?* (For whose Satisfaction this Paper seems to be more particularly Calculated): Whereas *He hath been pleased this very same year, to Order or Suffer* (with his Privity) His Subjects *to Re-possess themselves in like manner by Force and Arms, of a certain Place called* Cayenne, *which they pretend to have been wrongfully possessed and kept from them by the same* West-Indie-Company.

And

And as to the business of *Cabo Verde*, and the taking of their Ships, and what else is alledged to have been done in those parts (except that of *Cabo Corco*): 'Twas but in the Month of *June Last*, that the first Complaint was made thereof to His *Majesty*; and did he not immediately return for Answer, That He had given no Order or Direction to *Captain Holmes* (the Person complained of) for the doing thereof: That he did expect him Home very speedily; and that, upon his Return, he would cause those matters to be Examined, and Right to be done them, and the Offenders punished? And did not the said *Envoy Extraordinary* upon the *Twenty seventh day of July last*, deliver a *Memorial* to them to the like Effect? And could more be said or done for their Satisfaction? Yea, could their *Lordships* Themselves within their own Countries demand

mand more of any of their *Schepens*, or most *Inferiour Court of Justice?* And doth not the *Fourteenth Article* of the *Late Treaty* say in expreſs Terms, that *In case any thing should happen upon the Coast of* Africa, *either by Sea or Land, that* Twelve Months time *shall be given after Complaint, for the doing of Justice:* Yet did they not within about *Six* or *Seven* weeks after, Reſolve to ſend a Conſiderable Fleet of Theirs into thoſe Parts, to the number of *Ten Men of War* (beſides the Ships of the ſaid *Weſt-Indie-Company*) under the Command of one *Van Campen*, and ſtrengthned with a Conſiderable Body of their *Milice*, under the Command of one *Hertsberg?* And did they not within about *Six* or *Seven Weeks* after that, put a *Reſolution* into the hands of the ſaid *Envoy Extraordinary*, by their *Agent de Heyde*, and about the ſame time

give

give it to the *King* his *Master*, by their *Ambassador* at *London*, Denoting and containing the Instruction given to the said *Van Campen*?

And whereas they are pleased to Complement His *Most Christian Majesty* in the said Paper, as if upon his score in hopes of the good effects of his good Offices for the Accommodating of Matters, and for the making their Cause the more clear, they had hitherto forborn the Proceeding against His *Majesties Subjects*, as they might have done: Is it not therein expresly Declared and set down, that *That force was not sent thither barely to Defend what they had, and to take Care that nothing more should be Attempted upon them; but in down-right Terms*, to Attacque *and* Fall upon *His Majesties Subjects, and to Carve out their own Satisfaction and Reparation; And to pass by His doors for the doing thereof*?

thereof? And that, *Seconded* and *Backed* with *another Great Fleet* under their *Chief Sea-Officers*; An Affront and Indignation too great for the Name of *King* to Suffer and Digeſt without Juſt Reſentment.

And moreover, whereas their *Lordſhips* had lately invited His Majeſty of *Great Britain*, and other *Chriſtian Princes*, to ſend *Fleets* into the *Midland-Sea* to Act jointly againſt thoſe *Barbarians*; And that he did accordingly Declare unto them (in Writing, and by his *Envoy Extraordinary*) his Intentions of Sending, and that his *Fleet* ſhould Act *Junctis Conſiliis* with theirs: Yet ſo it is, that while it was Acting there, purſuant thereunto, and in Expectation of being *Seconded* and *Appuyed* by theirs, according to their Promiſe, *De Ruyther* was on a ſudden Commanded thence.

And

And whereas their *Lordſhips* would make the World believe, that they had proceeded with ſuch Singular and Extraordinary *Franchiſe* and *Clearneſs* towards his ſaid Majeſty, in Communicating their Intentions and Deſigns (as aboveſaid); Yet, *Is it not evident, that the ſaid Orders muſt have been given to* De Ruyther *much about the ſame time?*

And though Sir *John Lawſon* and His *Majeſties Fleet* hapned to be in the *ſame Port* with *De Ruyther* when he quitted thoſe Parts; yet neither did he in the leaſt impart unto him his intentions of quitting the ſame, or whither he was going; and though the King of *Great Britain* hath ſince, ſeveral times preſſed their *Ambaſſador* at *London* to be Informed whither he was gone, and upon what account; yet to this day His Majeſty hath not been able to obtain any Satisfaction or Aſſurance concerning

cerning that matter: Whereupon, and all other Circumstances being laid together, He hath just reason to suppose and believe, that he is sent and employed against Him, And that while His Majesty was continuing (according to common Consent and Agreement between them) His *Fleet* against the *Common Enemies* of the very *Name* of CHRISTIAN, and at a season, when it more than ordinarily becomed every one to shew something of their zeal against them; Theirs is call'd off, and turn'd against Him. Nor is it to be imagined, that *De Ruyther's Instructions*, which are *Concealed*, should be more *Favourable* than those which were *Avowed* to be given to *Van Campen*.

And is it then to be wondred, that His Majesty shews himself a little Concerned? Or is it now to be doubted, who is the *Attacquer* or *Aggressor*? And if *De Ruyther*

is

is in one part of the World making Warr againſt Him; What is to be ſaid againſt it, if His Majeſty not having at this time in thoſe Parts a ſuitable Force to Reſiſt him, doth make uſe of what he hath nearer home to endeavour to ſecure himſelf, or to get ſomething of theirs into his hands? Doth either *Common Right*, or His *Majeſties Treaty* with *This Country*, oblige to ſeek Satisfaction only in that part of the World where the Injury is done? and ſo doth that at all alter the Caſe, becauſe that their Forces acting againſt *Him out* of *Europe*, *His* do ſomething againſt *Them*, *in Europe*?

His Majeſty hath been very far from beginning with them in any Part of the World; but if at this time they are Actually with a Conſiderable *Fleet* of the *Eſtates* falling upon *Him*, and His *Subjects*; and He hath thereupon given Order to the ſtopping of ſome of

their

their Ships in Theſe Parts; Will not all the World Juſtifie His *Majeſty* herein? And when withal, *Themſelves* alſo *began the ſtopping of Ships in Theſe Parts*, and that He hath all thoſe reaſons of *Complaint* againſt them above-mentioned.

Given at the Hague *this* 16 *of* September, 1664.

G. DOWNING.

Of

Of the cruel Ingratitude, Infidelity, and Insufferable Wrongs of the Dutch.

THere are so many pressing Arguments, for the justness of this War, against the *Dutch*, and so generally know, that this Treatise will seem needless, and impertinent; however it will not be amiss in this juncture, to revive the memory of such execrable Cruelties, horrid Ungratitude, and insufferable Wrongs, and Abuses, the *Dutch* have exercised from time to time

againſt us, to the intent I may irritate, and provoke further the already enraged Spirits of ſuch Engliſh, who are willing to ſacrifice their lives in the preſervation of the Honour, and Safety of their King and Country.

It is not ſo long ſince, but it is eaſily remembred, who were their Riſe, who under God was their *Maker*, and yet durſt the ingratitude of theſe *Hogens*, prompt them to draw a ſword againſt *Him*, that *gave them being, and to whom they owe their being now in a condition of making this diſpute about the Dominion of theſe Seas.* And contend for the *right of the Flagg, whereas it is but as yeſterday they had Licences, and for a Tribute, to fiſh therein, granted them by his Majeſties Royal Predeceſſors.* O inſufferable impudence; for Muſhroom States to ſtruggle with their *Maker! Cæſar* endured without exclamation the Senators Pondyards, as whetted by a ſeeming juſt revenge; but when that of his own

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Imp *Brutus* was preſented againſt him, he covered his face, leaving the World with no leſs ſhame, then indignation, againſt ſo much unnatural Ingratitude: ſhould Millions of ſuch Barbariſmes now crowd together, they would be all outdone by *theſe peoples Inhumanities.*

It would make your heart bleed, were you at *Palaroon,* to read there the inexpreſſible Cruelties of the *Dutch* written in bloody Capitals, what unconceivable *Conſpiracies* did they contrive againſt the *Engliſh* in *America,* to their utter ruine and extirpation. But above all, who can forget thoſe unſpeakable Tortures the *Dutch* inflicted on the bodies of the *Engliſh* in *Amboyna,* and afterwards cruelly butcher'd them: the Memory whereof, whilſt Sun and Moon ſhall run their Heavenly courſe, or an Engliſh Spirit breath, can never be forgot, nay ſcarce forgiven.

If we conſider how loud and

preſſing the cry of blood is, or with what high ſeverity God ever proceeds againſt it, though his wrath for ſome ſmall time may ſeem to be aſleep, we have juſt cauſe to believe that there is a heavy account muſt be given by the *Dutch*, for that execrable Tyranny of theirs, executed upon the *Engliſh* in that place; and am almoſt fully perſwaded, that the time is now come, wherein his moſt *Gracious Majeſty*, by the effuſion of the blood of *Hollanders*, ſhall endeavour to appeaſe our incenſed God, for the innocent blood of ours which was plentifully ſpilt by them, as well in other parts, as both the *Indies*.

To take away a mans life without the courſe of Juſtice, though it be with the greateſt civility, and eaſineſs of death imaginable, is a crimſon crime, and which God hath denounced Murder, and will puniſh accordingly; but to heighten, and multiply a death, withall the previ-

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ous Tortures that a paſſionate Diabolical Malice can invent, Cruelty inflict, or the frame of Mans body undergo, is ſo far from being Manly or Chriſtian, that it is beyond Savageneſs and Beaſtiality, and Approaches that accurſed frame of ſpirit, that *He* hath plung'd himſelf into, who ſits in the horrid ſeats of darkneſs.

I ſhall only, briefly touch upon ſome particulars of this bloody Hiſtory, as not delighting in ſuch ſpeculations, which acquaint the mind with Extremities, and Criticiſms of ſin; a relation which hath brutiſhly out-done all former Records, and Examples of Cruelty.

There hapning ſome differences in the *Indies*, between the Suppoſt of the *Engliſh* and *Dutch* Companies, a Treaty was agreed on in *London* in the Year 1613. Another at the *Hague* 1615. But neither effected any thing to purpoſe; however 1619. There was a ſolemn compo-

ſition of all thoſe differences, and a Method laid down for their future proceeding, as well in Trade as otherwiſe; but in conſideration of the blood and coſt (as was pretended) the *Hollander* was at, in the expulſion of *Spaniards* and *Portugalls* out of the Iſles of the *Moluccoes*, &c. And for the building Forts for the future ſecurity of the ſame, it was agreed on, that they ſhould enjoy two Thirds of the Trade, the *Engliſh* the Third, and that the ſaid Forts ſhould be maintained by Taxes leavied on the Merchandize: their cheif Fort was at *Amboyna*, where the *Engliſh* had planted five Factories, the head of all the reſt; a place of conſiderable ſtrength, for it had four Bulwarks, with their Curtains; and upon each of theſe Points, ſix great Peices of Ordnance mounted, moſt Braſs, the one ſide thereof is waſhed with the Sea, and the other divided from the Land, with a Ditch of five Fathom broad, very deep, and alwayes

wayes filled with the Sea; in this Fort there were too hundred *Dutch* Souldiers, and a Company of free *Burghers*, beſides four hundred *Mardikers*, (as they call them) in the Town ready to ſerve this Fort or Caſtle at an hours warning; they having withall, ſeveral tall Ships in the Harbour, for Traffick, and defence.

The *Engliſh* had here in this Town, an houſe of their own, in which the lived under the Protection of the Caſtle, for two Years after the Treaty, and in reſpect thereof in amity on their ſides with the *Dutch*. But after this time ſeveral debates aroſe, and by reaſon of the treacherous and unjuſt proceedings of the *Dutch*, the juſt and miſerable complaints of the *Engliſh* were diſpacht away to *Jaccatra*, now called *Nova Battavia*, where their grievances being not heard, they were ſent into *England*, and diſcuſſed with *Holland*, but no favorable reſult

hence accrewed. Hereupon the differences encreasing, a sword was found by the *Hollanders* to cut asunder what their tedious disputes could not untie. On the eleventh of *February* 1622. In the Fort, the Sentinel secured upon suspicion, an inquisitive *Japoner*, who was put to the Torture, and thereupon he confessed, that He, and several of his Country-men, had plotted the surprizing of the Castle: upon this, other *Japoners* were tortured, and examined, who confessed the like; during the time of this Torture, which was four daies, several of the *English* went to the Castle, partly to do business, and partly to see these supposed Malefactors, not dreaming they were in the least concerned, having never had any converse with any of these Prisoners.

There was at the same time in the Castle, a debauched English-man, who for offering to set a Dutchmans house a fire, was confined, and him

him they ſhewd the grievouſly tortured *Japoners*, telling him withall, that they had confeſſed, that the *Engliſh* were joyn'd with them, in this confederacy; aſſuring him, if he would not confeſs the like, he ſhould be worſe ſerved; upon the Torture he confeſſed, as the reſt had done: hereupon they inſtantly ſent for what *Engliſh* there was in *Amboyna* to come immediately to the Governour, who obeyed the Summons; but they were no ſooner entered the Caſtle, but ſecured, and ſharply charged by the Governour, with this conſpiracie; having ſo done, they ſeized the Merchandize of the *Engliſh-company*, into their own cuſtody, with all their Books and Writings; nor did they omit ſecuring the *Engliſh* in the reſt of the Factories, whom they all threatned with the Torture, if they would not confeſs, what ever the Governour and the Fiſcal would have them, the Major part being fully reſolved to ſtand to

the truth, received their Helliſh Torture, but the puniſhment was to great for man to bear, and ſo by their confeſſions helped the *Dutch* to murder themſelves, as well as their poor innocent Country-men. Judge you by the manner following of their inſufferable Torture, whether theſe poor Souls would not ſay any thing, nay dye willingly to be freed from it: thus they uſed them, firſt they hoiſed the Priſoner up by the hands with a cord, on a large door, where they made him faſt with two ſtaples of Iron fixt on both ſides, on the top of the door poſts, extending his hands one from the other, as wide as they could ſtretch them; being thus made faſt, his feet hung about two foot from the ground, which having extended as wide as they could, they faſtned them to the Door Trees on each ſide; then they bound a cloath about his neck and face, ſo cloſe no water ſhould paſs by; that done, they poured the water ſoftly on his head,

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until the cloath was full up to the mouth, and noſtrils, and ſomewhat higher; ſo that he could not draw breath, but muſt withall ſuck in the water, which being ſtill continued to be poured in ſoftly, forced all his internal parts, ſo that the water came out of his Noſe, Ears, and Eyes; and often, as it were ſtifling and choaking him; at length taking away his breath, he falls into a ſwound; then taking him down quickly, they make him vomit up his water: being a little recovered, they triced him up again, and poured in the water; taking him down thus five or ſix times, as often as they ſaw him faint: by this means his Body would ſwell twice or thrice as big as before, his Cheeks like great Bladders, and his Eyes ſtaring and ſtrutting out beyond his Fore-head; after this, as they found him obſtinate in the maintainance of the truth, they would trice him up again, and with lighted Candles burn him in the bottoms of

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the Feet, until the Fat thereof drop out the Candles, yet for all that apply fresh Candles; burning him under the Elbows, and in the palms of the Hands, as also under the Armpits, until his inwards might be plainly seen.

Having by their extorted and forced confessions, accused one the other, they were all thrown into a loathsome Dungeon, where having lain a while, they were brought to the Castle-yard, where they received Sentence of Death; before their suffering, they desired to take the Sacrament in Testimony of their innocency, but it was denyed them; however, they all Unanimously called men and Angels to witness, they dyed innocent of that Conspiracy was laid to their charge.

As I wish the occasion of publishing this at first had never been, so I wish Justice once had, the remembrance hereof may be for ever buried. But this breach being National

nal, and to this day but in part ſatisfied (by ſome ſignal Victories obtained over them, before and ſince his Majeſties happy Reſtauration) and the blood there and elſewhere by them ſpilt, no doubt ſtill crying loud, it had been injuſt in the firſt publiſher to have buried it in ſilence, and a great ſin of forgetfulneſs in not reviving the remembrance: for as the beginning of theſe torments were from a cauſeleſs and ſlight ſuſpition of an improbable & ineffective plot, ſo by that means were we forced from our poſſeſſions in thoſe parts, and the injury became complicated both againſt Juſtice and Intereſt.

I cannot but add unto their cruelty, the extream malice they bore to the *Engliſh* in thoſe parts: *Polaroon*, one of the Iſlands of *Banda*, was taken by the *Dutch*, notwithſtanding according to the Treaty 1619. they knew it was to remain in the poſſeſſion of the *Engliſh*: but knowing withall, that it muſt be reſtored again, they

they exerciſe all the Malice in that Iſland, Hells conſiſtory could aſſiſt them with: they firſt take all courſes to make the Iſland little or nothing worth: they demoliſh and deface the Buildings, tranſplant the Nutmeg-trees, plucking them up by the roots, and carrying them into their own Iſlands, of *Nera* and *Poloway*, burning what Trees they thought unfit for Tranſplantations; nay, at laſt they found away to diſpeople the Iſland, and to leave it ſo, that the *Engliſh* might make no uſe of it, worth their charge of keeping it. To effect which, they entertain a Run-away, the Son of an *Orankey* or Gentleman of *Polaroon*, who having committed ſome notorious fact, which deſerved death, fled to the *Dutch* at *Nera*, acquainting the Governour, that the *Polaroons* had a deſigne with the help of the People of *Serran* in their *Curricurries*, to maſſacree all the *Dutch* in *Polaroon*, and *Polaway*. Immediately upon the *indicium* of this Male-

Malefactor, the Governour sent for the *Orankes* to him, of whom seventy came, which he secured, they knowing nothing of his design; and presently sent two hundred Men to *Polaroon* to secure the rest; having taken them Prisoners and brought to the Castle at *Nera*, they were secured with water and fire, as afterwards those of *Amboyna* were; two dyed on the Torture, and the rest, which were one Hundred and sixty, upon their one forced confessions, were condemned and executed; the Women were forthwith removed from *Palaroon*, and distributed into other Islands, subject to the *Dutch*, leaving that place destitute of the help of the Country people, without whom, neither the *Dutch* nor *English*, can maintain their Trade in the *Indies*.

Neither did their Treacheries, Wrongs, and Abuses, center here only, but strecht themselves out from *East* to the *West Indies*, practising

fing and perpetrating ſuch inhumanities and injuries, as are not fit for Chriſtians to nominate. For inſtance, be pleaſed to obſerve, that the Colonies of *New-England*, conſiſting of ſeveral Governments, have the *Dutch* ſetled on the *South-weſt*, of them, at the *Manatha*'s or the *New-Netherlands*: and the *French* to th: *North-eaſt*, along the great River of *Canada*, who till of late have held a Friendly correſpondence, and have afforded each other a mutual aſſiſtance againſt the common Enemy, the barbarous *Indians*.

About the Year 1646. the *Dutch* being reduced to a great exigence, and ſtrait, by the *Indians*: implored the *Engliſh* aid and aſſiſtance, which immediately was ſent them, under the command of one Captain *Underhil*, a Gentleman of excellent Courage, Prudence, and Conduct, who prizing Chriſtian blood, beyond *Indian* Wealth and Treaſure, (being proffered an Hogſhead of their *Wam-*

pam Pege, *Indian* Money, to withdraw the *Engliſh* Forces,) ſlighted their offer, and fell on thoſe *Infidels*, in vindication of the *Dutch*, cutting off in one night, fourteen hundred of them, not without the loſs of *Engliſh blood* conſiderably, and all to reſettle (with the Aſſiſtance of the Almighty,) the *Hollander* in Peace and Safety.

But Ingratitude over-clouding theſe Heroick Actions, and their accuſtomed Treacherous, and barbarous Cruelty, extending it ſelf from *Eaſt* to *Weſt*, running in its proper Channel of *Dutch* infidelity, quickly ſought out their Neighbours, their noble Friends and Defenders, the *Engliſh*: and nothing would ſerve the turn, but that they muſt return Deſtruction, for being the happy inſtruments of their then and former preſervation: this their unworthy inequality of retribution (without puting into the ballance their former and latter inexpreſſible ingratitudes) is enough

enough to Chronicle the *Hollander*, Perfidious, Ungrateful, Bloody, and Cruel.

It is no difficult matter to make it appear, how they about six years after indeavoured to repay the *English* kindness by their ruine: for in *March* 1653. with presents and large promises, they instigated and hired four of the grand Princes of those Territories, a fierce barbarous and bloody People, fit Instruments for so horrid a design, on a Sabbath day, when all Families were at Divine Worship, unexpectedly to fall on the *English*, and to burn and slay what possibly they could; and for the better perfecting this Diabolical Plot, they supplyed the *Indians* with Arms and Ammunition, which were dispersed in all their habitations, they having a Ship sent them on purpose from *Holland*, with all necessary tools, for the acting a second *Amboyna* Tragedy.

But the Omnipotent God (who hath

hath ever been a moſt merciful Protector of the *Engliſh* in thoſe parts, as in the *Pequet War*, &c.) did through his infinite goodneſs, moſt timely, before the bloody day of acting, cauſe an *Indian* that ſhould have been an Executioner, to be a revealing Deliverer, who informed the Magiſtrates of *Boſton*, of the *Dutch* and *Indians* bloody intentions; whereupon they requeſted ſeveral Marchants of that Town, with all expedition, to march forth toward the *Indian* habitations, to ſee what they could diſcover. The firſt *Wigwambs* or *Indian* Houſes they ſearcht, they found them full of Arms and Ammunition, (which have ever been prohibited the *Indians* by the *Engliſh*) all their Muſquets were charged with Powder and Ball, which, with ſome of the principal *Indians*, were carried to *Boſton*; who upon examination, confeſſed the *Dutch* had ſet them a work: all that we could then doe, was but to put our ſelves

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in our beſt Poſture of Defence.

Having thus given you a ſummary account of ſome of their cruelties, I cannot omit one particular paſſage, Chronicled by themſelves, wherein you may ſee in the cruel diſpoſition of one, the bloody inclination of the whole Flemiſh Nation.

At the Siedg of *Leyden*, a Fort being held by the *Spaniſh* Party, was after taken by the *Dutch* by aſſault or ſtorm. The Defendants according to the Law of Arms, were put to the ſword, where one of the *Dutch*, in the fury of the ſlaughter, ript up the Captains body, and with a barbarous hand tore out the yet living heart, panting among the reeking bowels: then with his teeth rent it, ſtill warm with blood, into gobbets, which he did ſpit over the Battlements, in defiance to the reſt of the Army.

Now as we have with brevity diſplayed the cruelty and treachery of the Nature and Actions of the *Hollander*

lander, both at home and abroad, ſo we muſt not forget what hath been by them committed, ſince the year 1660. At which time it was his Majeſties particular care, to conclude a ſtrict League with the States General of the *United Provinces*, upon ſuch equal Terms as would certainly not have been broken, if any Obligations could have kept them within the bounds of Juſtice, or Friendſhip: this League was inviolably kept and maintained on his. But in the year 1664. ſuch and ſo many were the complaints of his Majeſties Subjects, abuſed and wronged by the ungrateful *Hollander*, that the King, with the Unanimous vote of both houſes of parliament, was provoked to war, finding it a vain attempt to indeavour the proſperity of the three Kingdoms, by peaceable wayes at home, whilſt the People thereof were ſtill expoſed to the injuries and oppreſſions of the States abroad.

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His Majesty spent a whole Summer in negotiations and endeavours, to bring them to reasonable terms; which, notwithstanding all He could do proved at length ineffectual, for the more his Majesty pursued them with friendly Propositions, the more obstinately and unworthily they kept off from agreeing thereunto: upon this ensued the War, in the year 1665. and continued to the year 1667. in all which time our Victories and their Losses were memorable enough, to put them in mind of being more faithful to their Leagues for the future.

Which Victories they endeavoured to stifle by misreporting them conquests to their People, over the then gallantly equipt *English* Navy; and particularly that of the third of *June*, 1665. under the conduct of his Royal Highness the Duke of *York*, a Narrative whereof was Printed for general satisfaction, and to prevent misreports, which are commonly through

through ignorance, or malice, begotten upon occasions, of that Nature: and lest that signal Victory should be forgotten, in short, it was this; the *Dutch* Fleet was brought on our Coasts (in all probability) rather in expectation of finding Ours in disorder, upon the proceeding foul weather, or by the Reports of our unreadiness; then from their own innate Valour, but they were much mistaken, for it cost his Royal Highness but little time to make ready, his fore-going care, and the cheerfulness of our men, having prevented all hazard of disorder, and the happy arrival of the Colliers, haveing supplyed us with, what we only wanted, Men, but not Courage: the *Dutch* perceiving this, stood off to Sea, the number of their Ships being one Hundred and ten Sail, besides ten Fire Ships; we followed them till that Evening, and the next day forced them to fight: upon the whole matter, it pleased God to give his Majestie

jesty a great and signal Victory, the Enemy being driven into the *Texel*, as far as the draught of water, and the condition of our Ships would permit, the day being also very far spent, the summe of all is, the Enemies whole Fleet was defeated, Thirty of them burnt or taken, *Opdam* with his Ship, blown up, as is supposed by a lucky shot in the Powder-room; most of their Admirals killed, with many more of their Principal Officers; and according to their general computation, eight Thousand Seamen and Soldiers; on our side only one Ship lost, with some other slight damage. The God of Heaven be praised for preserving his Royal Highness, to be the great instrument of so signal a success, and continuing him to the perfecting this *great work* in hand, to the honour of his Majesty, and the welfare of his People.

And that you may trace them farther, in their unworthiness and ingratitude, this Victory, with the fear

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of being made no People, had no ſooner brought them on their knees, and his Majeſty out of his accuſtomed Clemency, and Commiſeration, had received them into favour, by making Peace with them, but they returned to their uſual cuſtom, of breaking Articles, and ſupplanting our Trade. *For inſtance, the States were particularly ingaged, in an Article of the Treaty at* Breda, *to ſend Commiſſioners to his Majeſty at* London, *about the Regulation of our Trade, in the* Eaſt-Indies, *but they were ſo far from doing it on that obligation, that when an Ambaſſador was ſent over, to put them in mind of it, He could not in three years time, get from them any ſatisfaction, in the materials points, nor a forbearance of the wrongs his Majeſties Subjects received in thoſe parts.*

To give you an account of every particular wrong, and injury, the *Engliſh* ſuffered by the *Dutch*, in their *Eaſt India* factory, would be a

Task as difficult to do, as to tell the ſpokes of a running Coach-wheel; let it ſuffice, his Majeſtie is throughly ſenſible of them, from the juſt and miſerable complaints of the Sufferers, and will now with Gods Aſſiſtance, now call them to a ſevere account, for all their inſufferable wrongs and abuſes which the *Eaſt* could not contain; and therefore they went a little farther in the *Weſt Indies.*

For by an Article in the ſame Treaty, his Majeſty was to reſtore Surinam *into their hands, and by Articles upon the Place confirmed by that Treaty, they were to give liberty to all the King of* Englands *ſubjects, in that Colony, to tranſport themſelves, and their Eſtates, into any other of his Majeſties Plantations. In purſuance of this agreement, the place was delivered up, and yet they detained all our men in it, only one eminent Perſon they ſent away priſoner,*

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for but desiring to remove according to the Articles.

To what a height will this insolence and perfidiousness of theirs arrive to, if not timely check't and prevented? How arrogant and presumptious will they be, if the bladder of their pride, blown up with violence, and oppression, be not suddenly prick't, and so let out the airy opinion of their supposed strength, and greatness; I know not what their arrogance and ambition, may prompt their precipitate indeavours, but if they think that our God above is deaf, and doth not hear the loud cryes of the injured, and oppressed, and that his Vice-gerent, here on Earth, the King of *England*, will not endeavour the redress of his abused Person and People, they are worse then that impudent Impostor, who in despight of his Saviour, threw his dagger into the air, as if he would have stab'd Heaven therewith, but was at last forc't to con-

Jeſs, *Vinciſti me Galilae.*

They will now find, I hope, a good God to direct a great and gracious Prince, how to puniſh ſuch a vild and ingrateful People: not ſo ſupinous or careleſs, as the *Dutch* abuſively have pictured him, with his hands in his Pockets, as an idle ſpectator, looking on his Ships as they burn'd at *Chatham*. I confeſs it was a ſudain hot Feaveriſh fit, and unexpected; but let them have a care they have not many thouſand ſhaking cold ones for it.

——Nec Surdum, nec Tireſiam quenquam eſſe Deorum.

——They'l find
None of the Gods are either deaf or blind.

But to return where I leſt off, my paſſion carrying me a little from my preſent ſubject, though not from the preſent purpoſe. Our Ambaſſa-

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dour complaining of this behaviour, afters two years ſollicitation, obtained an Order for the performance of theſe Articles; but Commiſſioners being ſent, and two Ships to bring our Men away, the *Hollanders* according to their former practiſes, ſent private Orders contradictory to theſe they had owned in publick, whereby our Commiſſioners journy thither, was to no other effect, then to bring away the poorer ſort of people, and the prayers and cries of the wealthier for releif out of that captivity. Whither this practice participate not of the Nature of Hell, I will give any rational Man leave to judge; ſince the mouth of that infernal place ſtands alwayes gaping to receive, but will let none out. Thus notwithſtanding his Majeſty made complaints by Letters, to the States of *Holland*, of this unjuſt detention, yet never received one word of ſatisfaction.

It is not to be wondred that they

venture on these outrages upon the *English* in remote parts, when they dare be so bold, with his Majesties Royal Person, in their abusive pictures, so grosly, that as it is not fit to be named; so none but a beastly boarish *Flemming* would do it. But let *De Wit* look to it, he that would have the States of *Hollands* Arms over his head, and that of *Englands* pictured under his feet, I question not but he will find that the *Belgick* Lyon with his crack't Sheafe of Arrowes cannot defend his sides from being gored by the *English* Unicorn. Yet still see how patient his Majesty was, and still is in bearing these matchless contumelies, and abuses, represented in Pictures, false Historical Medals, and Pillars, this one would think sufficient to exasperate his Majestie into an high displeasure, since it is so evilly rescented by all his Majesties loving Subjects, and will undoubtedly be revenged: but his Majesty graciously declares, it is not what relates to his paticular

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Self, but the ſafety of our Trade, upon which the wealth and proſperity of *England* depends, the preſervation of his people abroad from violence and oppreſſion; and the *Hollanders* daring to affront us, almoſt within our very Ports, which move his juſt indignation againſt them; and what *Engliſh-man* will not be aſſiſting with his life and eſtate, in ſo juſt a cauſe, wherein the honour of his King, and the welfare and ſafety of all his temporal concerns conſiſt; ſurely if we have left any thing of an *Engliſh* ſpirit, we cannot but be herein active; and as *England* never wanted men of courage, ſo I hope ſhe will not want power (if confidence may be put in the Arm of fleſh) to chaſtiſe the Inſolencies of our Enemies.

Who would have thought they durſt have diſputed the right of the Flag, a Prerogative ſo Ancient; it was one of the firſt of his Majeſties Predeceſſors, and ought to be the laſt from which their Kingdome

ſhould ever depart; it was heretofore by them never queſtioned, and I know not how it ſhould, it was expreſly acknowledged in the Treaty at *Breda*, and yet it was not only violated laſt Summer, but afterwards juſtified and repreſented by them abroad as ridiculous for us to demand. His Majeſtie may well call this an ungrateful inſolence, ſince in the time of King *James*, and King *Charles*, they never left cringing, till they got a permiſſion to fiſh in our Narrow Seas, and thought it an high obligation, although they paid a large Tribute for ſo doing; large did I call it! no, but ſmall, conſidering the vaſt benefit that did acrew unto them thereby. And now I think it will not be amiſs, here in this place, to give you ſome account of this fiſhing-trade, according to my beſt information.

The Coaſts of *Great Britain*, do yeild ſuch a continual Sea-harveſt, to all thoſe who with diligence labour

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in the ſame, that no time or ſeaſon elapſeth in the year, in which induſtrious men may not employ themſelves in fiſhing, which continueth from the beginning of the year, to the latter end, in ſome Port or other upon our Coaſts; and therein ſuch infinite ſhoales of Fiſhes are offered to the Takers, as may juſtly move admiration: the *Hollander* I am ſure is not ignorant hereof.

The Summer fiſhing for Herrings, begins about Mid-ſummer, and laſteth to the latter end of *Auguſt*: the Winter fiſhing for Herring, laſteth from *September* to the mid'ſt of *November*, both which extend from *Eughoneſs* in *Scotland*, to the *Thames* mouth.

The fiſhing for *Cod*, at *Almby*, *Wirkinton*, and *White-haven*, from *Eaſter* to *Whitſontide*.

The Fiſhing of *Hake* at *Haberdeny*, *Aberſwith*, and other places beteen *Wales* and *Ireland*, from *Whitſontide* to Saint *James tide*.

The Fiſhing of *Cod* and *Ling*, about *Padſtow*, within the Lands, and *Severn* from *Chriſt-tide*, to *Midlent*.

The Fiſhing for *Cod*, on the *Weſt* part of *Ireland*, from the beginning of *April*, to the end of *June*.

The Fiſhing of *Pilchars*, on the *Weſt* of *England* from St. *James-tide* to *September*.

The Fiſhing for great *Scalping*, and many other ſorts of Fiſh, about the Iſlands of *Scotland*, and in ſeveral parts of the *Brittiſh* Seas, all the year long.

And that you may know what plenty of fiſh we have in our Seas, not many years ſince, upon the Coaſts of *Devonſhire*, in one day were taken five hundred Tun of fiſh, and about the ſame time three thouſand pounds worth of fiſh in one day, were taken at St. *Ives* by *Cornwal* in ſmall Boats; others of the ſame Party adventuring in a Calm, among the *Holland* Buſſes, not far from *Robin-*

hoods

hoods-bay, returned presently to *Whitby*, full fraught with Herrings; and reported, that they saw some of those Busses take ten, twenty, and four and twenty Lasts of Herrings at a draught, most of them returning with an hundred Lasts of Herrings in one Buss, into *Holland*.

At another time it was observed, that a Fleet of Colliers returning from *New-Castle* to *London*, about the Well near *Flamborough-head*, met with such multitude of *Cod*, *Ling*, and *Herrings*, that one among the rest, drew up in a small time, as many as were sold for neer upon as much as her whole lading of Coales amounted to, and some hundreds of Ships might have been there laden in two dayes and two nights.

Out of which wonderful affluence and abundance of Fish swarming upon our Seas, that we the better perceive the Infinite gain which the *Dutch* make thereof, and by that means, how infinitely beholding they

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are unto us, I ſhall inſiſt upon the number of fiſhing Veſſels, they have formerly and lately imployed upon our coaſts, and by their vaſt income, how they have increaſed in Shipping, in Mariners, in Trade, in Towns and Fortifications, in Power abroad, in publick Revenue, in private Wealth; and laſtly, in all manner of Proviſions, and ſtore of things neceſſary.

How poor and low theſe *Hoghen Moghens* were, in Q. *Elizabeths* time, is unknown to few: at which time *France* tyred with labour, the ſtriving of her own children, had cauſed in the bowels of her ſtate, and child by the cold diſtruſt conceiv'd of the revolted *Hollanders* ſucceſs, (rebelling againſt their lawful Sovereign) deſerted them into deſpair, as well as other Neighbouring Princes: then may they remember, how *England* open'd her tender arms, to receive their Fugitives, and her purſe to pay their Soldiers: ſo that a foot of ground cannot

not be called theirs, that owes not a third part to the expence, Valour, or Counsel of the *English*, of whom such glorious spirits have expired in their defence, as have been thought at too too mean a rate, to double the value of what they thought for.

Did not the *English* dispute their Title at *Ostend*, till they had no Earth to plead on, the very ground failing them before their Valours; yet whilst fighting there, not only against the Flower of the *Spanish* Army, but the Plague, Hunger, and cold despair; so that it may be said without Hyperbole, the Nobility and Gentry, Queen *Elizabeth* lost, doubled the number, the cruelty of *Spains* great *Philip* had left you.

The Assistance that wise Queen gave them, was good self-policy; she made them able to defend themselves against *Spain*, and was so at the Pole; but they who inable them to offend others, as her successors have done, have gone beyond it

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queſtionleſs had this Thorne been removed out of the *Spaniards* ſide, he might have been feared too ſoon, to graſp his long intended Monarchy, were the *Spaniard* poſſeſſed Lord of the *Low-Countries*, or had the States General the wealth and power of *Spain*, the reſt of *Europe*, might be like a People at Sea, in a Ship on Fire, that could only chuſe whither they would drown or burn.

We have cheriſhed this ſtarveling viper too long in our warm boſomes, and now doth not only hiſs at, but indeavour to ſting thoſe who brought them to life, from almoſt an irremedileſs condition.

Since we ſuccoured them abroad, and gave them leave to fiſh in our Seas, pray conſider their vaſt increaſe of Shipping.

They had many y ears ſince, ſeven hundred Strand-boats, four hundred Evars, and four hundred Gallies, Drivers and Jod-boats wherewith the *Hollanders* fiſh on their

their Cloaſts, every one of theſe employing another Ship, to fetch Salt, and carry the Fiſh into their own Country; being in all three thouſand ſail, maintaining and ſetting at work at leaſt fourty thouſand Perſons, Fiſhers, Tradeſmen, Woman and Children.

Beſides they have an hundred Dager-boats, one hundred and fifty tuns a peice, or thereabouts; ſeven hundred Pinds and Well-boats, from ſixty to an hundred tuns a peice, with altogether fiſh upon the Sea of *England*, and *Scotland*, for *Cod* and *Ling* only, and theſe too for the moſt employ other Ships, to bring them Salt, and carry the Fiſh home, making in all ſixteen hundred Ships, which maintain and imploy at leaſt four thouſand Perſons of all ſorts. For the *Herring* ſeaſon, they have at leaſt ſixteen hundered Buſſes, all of them only fiſhing on our Coaſts, and every one of theſe maketh work for three other Ships which attend

attend her; the one to bring in Salt from forrein parts, the other to carry that Salt and Cask to the Busses, and to bring back the *Herrings*, and the third to transport the said Fish into forreign Countries: so that the total number plying the Herring-fishing, is six thousand four hundred.

Moreover, they have four hundred Vessels at least, that take Herring at *Yarmouth*, and there sell them for ready-money: so that the *Hollander* (besides their three hundred Ships fishing on their Coasts) have at least eight thousand and four hundred Ships only maintained by the Seas of *Great Britain*, by the which means principally, *Holland* being not so big, as one of our Shires in *England*, conteining not above twenty eight miles in length, and twenty three in bredth, have increased the number of their Shipping, to at least ten thousand sail, and to that number they add in a manner daily, although the Country it self affords them neither

neither Materials, nor Victuals, nor Merchandiſe to be accounted of, towards their ſetting forth.

Secondly, let us conſider the increaſe of their Mariners, from the number of their Ships, fiſhing on our Coaſts, which as we ſaid before, were eight thouſand four hundred, we muſt allow more hands to the fiſhing concern, then for bare ſailing; if ſuppoſe ten men to every ſhip, one with another, the total of Marriners and Fiſhers, will amount to fourſcore and four thouſand; out of which number, they continually furniſh their longer Voyages, to all parts of the World; for by this they are not only inabled to brook the Sea, and to know the uſe of the Tackle and Compaſs, but are likewiſe inſtructed in Trade, and in the Principles of Navigation and Pilotage; inſomuch as their chiefeſt Navigators, have had from home their education and breeding: and hence they are become, as skilful and knowing

knowing in all the Sands, Sholes, Creeks and Channels belonging to our Coasts, as the best of our Pilots.

Thirdly by reason of those multitudes of Ships and Mariners, they have extended their Trade to all parts of the world, and therein (to speak the truth,) have out-thrown all ever yet have used the Sea, many Bars length, exporting in most of their Voyages, Herring and other Fish, returning in exchange, the several commodities of other Countries.

From the *Southern* parts, as *France*, *Spain*, and *Portugal* for our Herrings, they return Oyl, Wine, Prunes Hony, Wool, Grain, with store of forragin coyn; from the *Streights*, Velvets, Sattins, and all sorts of Silk, Allom, Currants, all Grocery ware, with much Money.

From the *East* Country, for our Herrings, they bring home Corn, Wax, Flax, Hemph, Pitch, Tar, Soap-

Soap-aſhes, Iron, Copper, Steel, Clap-board, Wainſtoate, Maſts, Timber, Deal-boords, *Poliſh*-dollars, and *Hungary*-gilders. From *Germany*, for Herrings, and other Salt-fiſh; Iron, Steel, Glaſs, Mill-ſtones, Rheniſh-wines, Battery-plate for Armour, with other munitions; alſo Silk, Velvets, Raſhes, Fuſtians, Poratoes, and ſuch like *Frankfort* Commodities, with ſtore of *Rix-dollars*.

From *Brabant*, they return for the moſt part ready-Money, with ſome Tapeſtries, Sayes and Hull-ſhops: yea, ſome of our Herrings are carried as far as *Braſile*; and that which his more ſtrange, and much to our ſhame, above four hundred of their Ships, fiſh with ours at *Yarmouth* within Ken of land, uncontrould, making us pay ready-money for our fiſh, caught by them on our ſhores.

Fourthly, by this their large extent of Trade, (originally derived from

from the benefits they have received from the Kingdom of *England*, they are become as it were Devisions of the whole World, whereby they have within a Century or more of years, so enlarged their Towns, that the major part of them, are as big again as they were before; for instance, *Amsterdam*, *Leyden*, and *Middle borough*, having been lately above twice enlarged, and their Streets and Buildings so orderly set forth, that for Beauty and Strenght, they may compare with most, upon which they bestow infinite sums of Money, all originally flowing from the bounty of our Seas; from whence, by their labor and industry, they derive the beginnings of all their Wealth and Greatness, and particularly for th: Havens of the aforesaid Towns, whereof some of them cost Forty, Fifty, or an Hundred Thousand pounds.

Fifthly, by reason of the number of their Shipping, and Mariners, and

and ſo great a Trade occaſioned by fiſhing principally, they have not only ſtrengthned and fortyfied themſelves at home, to repell any further Polemick attempts of the King of *Spain*, but have likewiſe ſtretched their power to the *Eaſt* and *Weſt-Indies*; in many places whereof they are Lords of the Sea-coaſts, and have likewiſe fortified on the Main, where the King and People are ſubject to their devotion, and our country-men the *Engliſh*, lying open to all the out-rages, a cruel and inſulting Tyrant can inflict upon them. So formidable they are both by Sea, and Land, that none but a *Carolus a Carolo*, knows how to lore their top-ſaile of their inſufferable Pride, and bring by the Lee, their matchleſs inſolence.

Sixthly, how mightily the publick Revenue and Cuſtomes of the State are increaſed, by their fiſhing, may appear in that about forty or fifty years ſince, over and above the Cuſtomes,

Cuſtomes of the Mercandize, Exciſes, Licenſes, Waſtage and Laſtage, there was paid to the State for Cuſtom of Herrings, and other Salt-fiſh, and Cask paid for Waſtage, which cometh at leaſt to as much more: beſides a great part of their Fiſh ſold in forraign parts for ready money, for which they commonly export for the fineſt Gold and Silver, and coming home recoyn it of a baſer allay, under their own ſtamp, (witneſs the ſcarcity of our old Gold) which is no ſmall means to augment their Treaſure.

Seventhly, as touching their private wealth, it will appear by the abundance of Herring, and other fiſh by them taken. For inſtance, during the War between the King of *Spain*, and the *Hollander*, the *Dunkirkkers*, by taking, ſpoyling, and burning the Buſſes of *Holland*, and ſetting great ranſome on the Fiſhermen, enforced them to compound for great Sums of Money, that they might

might fish quietly one year, whereunto the next year after the Fishermen among themselves were to pay a dollor upon every last of Herrings, towards the maintenance of certain Ships of War, to convoy and secure them in their fishing; by reason whereof, there was a Record kept of the several last of Herrings taken that year, and it appeared thereby, that in one half year, there was taken three hundred thousand last of Herrings, which being at twelve pound *per* last, amounteth to three Millions and six hundred thousand pounds; whereas at sixteen, twenty, and thirty pounds they are sold in other Countries.

This great Trade of fishing, employing so many Ships at Sea, must consequently maintain a very great number of Tradesmen, and Artizens at land; as Spinsters, and Hempwinders for Cables, Cordage, Yarn, Twine for Nets, and Lines, Weavers to make Sail-cloaths, Receivers,

ceivers, Packers, Dreſſers, Tacklers, Coopers, Blocks, and Bowl-makers, for ſhips, Keelmen and Labourers, for removing and carrying fiſh, Sawyers for planks, Carpenters, Shipwrights, Boat-men, Brewers, Bakers, and a number of others, whereof a great part may be maimed Perſons, and unfit to be otherwiſe employed, beſides the maintenance of all their ſeveral Wives, Children & Families; and further, every man or maid-ſervant, or Orphan, having any poor ſtock, may venture the ſame in their fiſhing voyages, which affords them ordinarily great increaſe, and is duly paid according to the proportion of their gain; this makes them have ſo few Beggars among them, and we ſo many, in not finding out ſuch like means, to imploy the poorer ſort of people; the appurtenances hereunto belonging, will coſt us no more than theirs did; and ſince we have the propriety of the Seas, we want only induſtry to effect this purpoſe.

Laſtly,

Laſtly, *Holland* is ſo poor of it ſelf, that it yieldeth little, ſaving ſome few Hops, Madder, Butter and Cheeſe; yet notwithſtanding, by reaſon of his Art of fiſhing, aboundeth plentifully in all manner of Proviſions, as well for Life as Luxury, nay for defence too; all which they not only have in competent proportion for their own uſes, but are likewiſe able from their ſeveral Magazineſs, to ſupply other Countries.

The premiſes conſidered, it maketh much to the ignomy and ſhame of this Kingdom, that God and Nature offering us ſo rich a Treaſure, even to our own doors, we notwithſtanding neglect the benefit thereof, and by paying mony to the ungrateful *Hollander*, for the fiſh of our own Seas, impoveriſh our ſelves to inrich them.

But thanks to Almighty God, that hath put it into his Majeſties heart to put a ſtop to their further proceedings herein, and do not

doubt but he will once more make them acknowledg, that the Soverainty of the Narrow Seas belong to him alone, his Majesties Prerogative by immemorable prescription, continuall usage and possession, the acknowledgment of all Neighbours, States, and the Municipal Laws of this Kingdom, and that unto him (by reason of the said Soveraignty,) the Supream command and jurisdiction over the passage and fishing in the same rightfully appertaineth.

Why may not the *English* then make the same advantages of these Seas, as the *Dutch*, whom we are now chastiseing, not for their industry therein, but for their ingratitude, incivility, and rag-manners? The task will not be very difficult, if this method may be observed as followeth.

By erecting two hundred and fifty Busses, of reasonable strength and bigness, there will be employment found for a thousand Ships, and for

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at leaſt twenty thouſand Fiſhermen and Mariners at Sea, and conſequently for as many Laborers, and Tradeſmen at Land. The Herrings taken by thoſe Buſſes, will afford the King twenty thouſand pound Cuſtom outward, and for Cuſtomes returned inward, three hundred thouſand pound and more.

We have Timber ſufficient, and at reaſonable rates, growing in this Kingdom, for the building theſe Buſſes, and every Shire affordeth men of able and hardy bodies, fit for ſuch employment, who now live poorly and idlely at home; Proviſion we have cheap enough, and great plenty thereof, and our Shores and Harbours are near thoſe places, where the Fiſh do haunt; for drying our Nets, Salting and Packing our Fiſh, and for ſuccour in ſtreſs of weather, we may bring our fiſh to Land, Salt and Pack it, and from ſome parts of this Kingdome, be at our Markets in *France*, *Spain*, or *Italy*, before

the *Hollander* can get home.

But this we ſhall the better and ſooner do, if we conſider and endeavour to reforme certain wants, and abuſes, which heretofore hath hindred us, from effecting this good and great work; whereof theſe that follow, are none of the leaſt.

The non-obſervance, (or but ſlightly) of the old Cuſtom, and the Statute Laws, for obſerving fiſh-daies, from whence ſcarcity of fleſh proceedeth: Thus fiſh being not bought ſo frequently as it ought to be, the want of ſale decayeth the Trade thereof.

Want of order and direction in our fiſhing, every man being left to himſelf, and every man fiſhing as liketh him beſt. Whereas amongſt the *Hollander*, two of the beſt experienced Fiſhermen are appointed to guide the reſt of the Fleet, and the reſt are bound to follow them, and ſo caſt their lines according to their diſcretion. Again, the *Hollanders*

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ſet forth in *June*, to find the ſhoal of fiſh; and having found it, dwell amongſt it till *November*; whereas We ſtay till the Herrings come home to us, and ſometimes ſuffer them to paſs by us, ere we look out, our Herring fiſhing continuing only ſeven weeks at moſt, and theirs twenty.

The *Hollanders* Buſſes are great and ſtrong, and able to brook foul weather, whereas our Cobbles, Crayes, and Boats, being ſmall and thin-ſided, are eaſily ſwallowed by a rough Sea, not daring to adventure far in fair weather.

The *Hollanders* are induſtrious, and no ſooner are diſcharged of their lading, but preſently put forth for more; whereas our *Engliſh*, after they have been once at Sea, do commonly never return again, till their money taken for their fiſh be ſpent, and they in debt.

The *Hollanders* do retain the Merchants, who during the herring

ſeaſon, doe duly come to the places where the Buſſes arrive, and by joyning together in ſeveral Companies, do preſently agree for the lading of forty Buſſes at once; and ſo being diſcharged, they may return ſpeedily to their former fiſhing; whereas our Fiſhermen, uncertain of their Chapmen, are forced to ſpend much time in putting off their fiſh by parcels.

What elſe may be conſidered in this particular, I will leave to the ſerious thoughts of better Headpeices than my own.

Thus as I have given you a ſummary account of the vaſt advantges, which will accrue unto us, by the regular, orderly, and induſtrious fiſhing on our own Coaſts, ſo I have briefly related how highly indebted the *Hollander* is to the King of *England*, for his wealthy fiſhing-Trade; yet they are ſo far from acknowlegding any debt, that inſtead thereof, they have moſt unworthily thrown dirt in his Majeſties face; a

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Gracious Prince, who hath indeavoured by kindneſſes, to charm theſe ſwarming Frogs, who are now ready to become an *Egyptian* Plague, by croaking againſt him, in his own Waters. They ſay *Hollands* opulent and wealthy Citty *Amſterdam* was founded on Herring-bones. For all my juſt animoſity againſt the *Dutch*, as an *Engliſhman*, I cannot but be ſomewhat afflicted, to ſee the *Dutch* hazard the reducing it into its firſt Principle, by this War with *England*.

Here now let me crave leave to addreſs my ſpeech to this ungrateful Neighbour, and thus a little expoſtulate with him.

1. Hath not his Sacred Majeſty been alwayes ſo *tender* of his Royal word, that he made with you before he left the *Hague*, and the preſervation whilſt you needed it, and friendſhip, ſince God hath inabled you to ſubſiſt, as he ſcarce had ſet

foot on his Royal Throne here, before the ſence of your ſafety, no leſs then of his inſpired him, with an earneſtneſs, to renew, or ſtrengthen his Royall Alliance with you, not ſo obſervable in reſpect of any Neighbour beſide, doubling I am ſure in retalliation, the poor and few marks of gratitude have dropt from you; rather expunging his kindneſſes, with your more frequent injuries, and imputing your failing, to the leſs courtly nature of your ſoile and people; then the want of gratitude and civility, to ſo potent a Neighbour as *Britain*, who next to God, may be ſtyled your *Maker*, who hath diſpenſed with thouſands of dangers and inconveniences for your ſake?

2. Have you not had liberty to trade, and to become Deniſons; nay ſo graciouſly you have been uſed by his Sacred Majeſty, and his Royal Father, even to admiration, that you had power to buy and purchaſe Land

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in fee simple, tale or otherwise in any of his Cities and Countries; no mark of distinction being imposed, in relation either to Honour, Profit, or Justice; Witness the Acts of Naturalizing so many of your Spawn, in the Twelfth, Thirteenth and Fourteenth years of his present Majesties Reign.

3. Do not the Maritan Towns of *Kent*, *Essex*, *Suffolk*, and *Norfolk*, &c. abound with the issue of those swarms, the very sound and noise of their fellowes Calamities, had driven out of their Hives?

And notwithstanding the present just War his Majesty hath proclaimed against the States General of the United Provinces, he hath mercifully provided for the aforesaid *Dutch-Inmates*, & all such who are necessitated to withdraw their Persons and Estates out of those Countries: nay, observe his Majesties special care of your people inhabiting this his Kingdom, in his

own words: *And because there are remaining in our Kingdoms, many Subjects of the States General of the United Provinces, We do declare, and give our Royal Word, that all such of the Dutch Nation, as shall demean themselves Dutiful towards Us, and not correspond with Our Enemies, shall be safe in their Persons and Estates, & free from all molestations & and trouble of any kind*; how illy you have deserved this continuance of so many kindnesses, I dare appeal to your own Consciences, or any impartial Person to judge.

4. Can you think so wise a Council as this Kingdom was steered by, did not apprehend; that though the making you free might fortify the Queens out-works; yet it could not but as much dismantle the Royal Fort of Monarchy? I know not whither you were a president to the late Usurper, who for many years, steeped the three Kingdoms in their own blood: but sure I am, your

Principles

Principles may teach Subjects to depose their Princes, and be no losers by the bargin; which (by the way) hath rendred you unpleasant or unacceptable to all Neighbor Monarchs, fearing by your practices you will furnish their subjects with pretences upon all occasions of advantage to do the like.

5. Was not the assisting you an occasion of our invasion in eighty eight, by a Navy held invincible in the Creed of *Rome*, till the more glorious Valours of the *English* (*assisted by the Lord of Hosts*) had cleanly confuted the Popes Title, even to the amazement of the *Clifts*, and wonder of the World? The only reason then that kept King *Philip* from heading a Royal Army in his own Person, was the fear he did apprehend of his being cast in his passage out of *Spain*, (as his Father *Charles* the Fifth was) upon the British shore, knowing the *English* were cordial in your preservation, then ever to

suffer

ſuffer him to come and goe in Peace, when he came on ſo bloody an errand.

6. And though he, as a Magnanimous Prince, and ſo great a Monarch as he was, yet he did often deſire his *Siſter of England* to hear his juſt defence, for his ſo rigorous proceedings; She refuſing to diſpute the truth of your complaints, preſuming it more probable for a ſtranger to be a Tyrant, then that the Natural Inhabitants upon a ſlighter cauſe, caſt themſelves into the no leſs bloody, then ſcorching flames of a Civil and uncertain War, She ſeeming rather to forget the Obligations She owed him, either as a private Perſon or Brother, when he was King of *England*, then her Neighbours oppreſſions. I ſhall not need here draw blood in your faces by application, your Conſciences (if you have any ſuch thing left) will do it for me.

7. Were not your meſſengers received

ceived into *England* in the quality of Embaſſadors, they being then too modeſt to own higher Titles, then of *Poor Petitioners*, caſting themſelves proſtrate at the feet of no leſs Potent Tribunal, then what you were admitted to in the quality of Embaſſadors the other day, and the which you now fight againſt; at which time, (I bluſh to think thereof) your Embaſſadors was pleaſed to ſay, *that in this conjucture they would condeſcend to ſtrike to Us, if we could aſſiſt them againſt the* French; *but upon condition, that it ſhould never be taken for a Preſident hereafter, to their perjudice:* this was ſuch a condition which would ſoon have reduced us to a miſerable and contemptible condition, Did not your Ambaſſador forget himſelf, what and where he was, to be admitted into the quality of an Ambaſſadour, was an honour you could never have attained to, but through the Clemency of a gratious Prince? your Meſſengers in the ſame quality

but

but narrowly escap'd the Gallowes, when they went with their Petition to his *Catholick Majesty*? And did not his late Sacred Majesty, out of his Princely goodness imbroider your Messengers with Titles, unworthy such ingratitudes, as you afterwards shewed him and his, against your Alliance then made and professed?

8. Have you not opened your Arms, to receive those into your Councils and pay, that even the whole World doth blush at the reflection of so horrid an Act; such is it that tears fall on my Pen at its Relation, as if it should say, thou art not able to express blackness? Wherein *Holland*, canst thou glory? not with colouring it with a charitable Protection? O no! Then what satisfaction can you give the World; or fancy to your selves, when you shew a President how to protect the most horrid Regicide that ever drew breath, such as are culpable of no less crime then the blood of the best

of

of Kings, and one who espoused you as it were into his Royal Family?

9. Nay, see farther you ingratitude, that no sooner Providence had measured out the Kingdom into Peace, by restoring our dread Soveraign unto his undoubted Right, and the words of a firm Alliance and Amity, (concluded betwixt him and you,) scarce cold in his mouth, but what wonderful outrages you committed on our Ships and Merchants, in almost all places and Ports, where you could either find or meet them, but especially there, where you were able to treble the *English* power and strength, who if equally but Man'd or Shipt, would have reduced your *Brandy*-courages into that combustion which they say that Wine bears, and that only by its flames to behold your own ruines: nay, such was your ingratitude, as if nothing were more indifferent to you, then who were happy, so *England* were miserable?

10. If you were not willing for those

those many years, to come stealing and bribing the *Usurpers* so long for your fishing, why should you be so tutchy now, with such as inquire whether it was worth your cost, or their Honour, to defend the propriety thereof, to the utmost hazard of their lives and fortunes? I understand that the late *Usurpers* did not only give you the fish, but baits to catch them, (*Lampries* I mean) loaden by boatfulls out of the *Thames*, which they would never have done, had they been as full of circumspection as that Creature is reported to be of eyes, this kindness to you (as all other kindnesses shown to you use to do) made you so insolent as to fly in their face, for which they were forced to bring you into better manners, witness the several Victories they obtained over you in the year, 1652. But more especially, that neer *Portland*, wherein you were totally overthrown, imputing your want of success, to want of powder; but I think those few of

yours

yours which were left, they sent home *with a Powder.*

Lastly, all this considered, why may not his Majesty assume to himself, the right of disposure and regulation of that which is undoubtedly his own? and why may he not take, till by you, that never-questioned style of Lord of the *Brittish* Ocean? as well as you at *Guiny*, and the *East-Indies*, that strive with your *Maker*, who shall be most *High* and *Mighty*.

With these Expostulations, pray take some of these following *Queries*.

Some pertinent and necessary *Queries* to the present Subject.

1. What other Alliance can afford you so safe Harbourage in case of foul weather at Sea, as *England Scotland* and *Ireland*? if none, whether contingencies driven in by storm under our shelter, your *West*, and *East-India*, and *Straits-men*, may not exceed all the Coales and Tobbacco Prizes, *De Ruyter*, or any

any under him, ſhall ſcrape up in his Naval expedition?

If the raiſing a Flying Army in the *Netherlands*, may not one time or other be reduced to ſuch a faction, eſpecially when headed by one that cannot keep the ſame Conſort with you, as to cauſe the reſolving you into the firſt Principles of both *Poor*, *Diſtreſſed*, and *Oppreſſed*? Nay, it may be, further reduce you to be Vaſſals to ſome of your right or left-hand Neighbours, whoſe aim is wholly to root up that Vine, which they perceive is likely to eccliſpe; but more willing to deſtroy the glories of their rights, and benefits of their Traffick and Trade.

3. If *Venice* may not unproperly be called the Signet on *Neptunes* right hand; whether *England* and the *Netherlands* being in a ſtrait confederacy, may not be ſtyled his two Arms? By which, in relation to their ſhipping, he embraceth the Univerſe.

4. Whether

4. Whether your Maiden Towns (as you call them) may not longer enjoy that Title under the Alliance of *England*, who hath many more rich and beautiful Havens and Harbours, then any other Neighboring Nation.

5. Whether the making an honourable Peace with *England*, by complying with her juſt commands, may not be accounted putting of Money to more than common Intereſt?

6. In caſe it ſo happens, whether their Wiſdomes do not ceaſe too dangerous and chargable Wars; the which if not done, may not be the ſole cauſe of having it ſaid, *their blood was upon their own heads?*

7. Whether in caſe *Zealand*, or any other of your Provinces irritated by the inconveniences that muſt inevitably follow, may not be tempted to divide, and adhere to the ſtronger and *honeſter ſide?* And which that is your Wiſdoms, may eaſily reſolve from the diſpute, his Royal Highneſs, and the incomparable *Rupert*

gave

gave your *Meenheere, Opdam?*

8. Whether the World may not afford Us and You, a sufficient trade without intruding, or encroaching on each others Intereſts?

9. Whether Monarchs do, or can look upon you under a milder aſpect, then Traitors, without a *tacit* conſent of the like power reſident in their People; whereas *England* doth and ever did eſteem you in a more honourable relation and intereſt; for though you, like the Dial of *Ahaz*, recoiled ſo many degrees back in the Sphear of policy, it is Naturally more proper for that hand, and that power which firſt made you a free State, to be touched with an inclination ever to maintain that Honour and Intereſt, which the blood of ſo many of their brave Country-men hath expired in the ſetting it up?

10. Whether, as you are compared to the *Ant* for induſtry, ſo in this, as one ſaith, the *Ant* is a wiſe Creature, but a ſhrewd thing in a Garden

or

or Orchard, and truly ſo are you; where ever you light in a pleaſant or rich ſoyl, like Succours and lower Plants, you rob from the root of that Tree, which gave you ſhade and protection. Thus let me tell you, your Wiſdome is not indeed Heroick; as courting an Univerſal good, but rather narrow and reſtrictive, as being a Wiſdome, but for your ſelves; which to ſpeak plainly, is deſcending into craft; and is but the ſiniſter part of that which is really Noble and Cœleſtical. Nay, in all, they hold ſo true a proportion with the *Emmet*, as you ſhall not find that they want ſo much as the ſting?

11. Whether *Holland* affords not the People one commodity beyond all other Regions, if they die in perdition, they are ſo low, that they have a ſhorter cut to Hell, then the reſt of their Neighbours: And for this cauſe, perhaps all ſtrange Religions throng thither, as naturally inclineing towards their Center: Beſides,

ſides, their riches ſhew them to be *Fluto's* Region; and you all know, what part that was which the Poets did of old aſſign him?

12. Whether the Duke *d'Alva's* taxing of the tenth penny on the *Netherlands*, did not fright it into a Pauſſy, which all the Mountebanks they have bred ſince, could never tell how to cure: for at the approach of a Waggon, the Earth ſhall ſhake as if it were Ague-ſtrucken?

13. Whether if Mount *Ætna*, be Hells mouth or fore-Gate, *Holland* be not the Poſtern; for ſome call it the Port *Eſquiline* of the world, where the whole Earth doth vent her crude black gore, which the Inhabitants ſcrape away for fewel, as men with ſpoons do excrements from Civit-Cats.

14. Whether Eſcutcheons are not as plentiful in *Holland*, as Gentry is ſcarce; for every man there is his own Herald, and he that hath but wit enough to invent a Coat, may challenge

challenge it as his own: A Coat they must have, though their Anceſtors were never known, which in ſpight of Heraldry, ſhall bear their Atchievment, with an Helmet for a Barron at leaſt, Marry the Field perhaps ſhall be charged with three Baskets to ſhew what trade his Father was.

15. Whether the *Dutch* People, are ſo generally Booriſh, but that moſt of them may be bred a States-man, they having all this gift, not to be ſo nice conſcioned, but that they can turn out Religion to let in Policy.

16. Whether their Country is not the God they worſhip, War their Heaven, Peace their Hell, and the *Spaniard*, the Devil, they hate, Cuſtome their Law, and their Will their Reaſon?

17. Whether the *Hollander* was not bred before Manners were in Faſhion, and that makes his conditions as Booriſhly-churliſh as his breeder *Neptune*? 18. Whe-

18. Whether complement be not an idleneſs they were never trained up in, and that's the Reaſon of their happineſs, that Court-Vanities have not ſtole away their minds from buſineſs?

19. Whether the *Hollander*, had he not been a Subject to *Spain*, would not have loved the Nation better; and that which confirms their eternal hate, is, that they know the World remembers they were once the Subjects of that moſt Catholick Crown?

20. Whether their Shiping is not the *Babel* which they boaſt on, for the glory of their Nation; It is indeed a wonder; and they will have it ſo, but we may well hope they will never be ſo Potent at Land, leſt they ſhew us how doggedly they can inſult where they get the Maſtery?

21. Whether equality of number, when they meet our Ships at Sea, be not as dreadful to them, as a *Falcon*, to a *Mallard*, from whom their beſt remedy is to ſteale away: But if they

they come to blows, they want the valiant ſtoutneſs of the *Engliſh*, who will rather expire bravely in a bold reſiſtance, than to ſtain their Honour by an ignoble flight.

22. Whether *Democracy* be not the beſt Government for the *Low Countries*, ſince there had need be many to rule ſuch a Rabble of rude ones? Tell them of a King in jeſt, and they will cut your throat in earneſt.

23. Whether there is under Heaven ſuch a Den of ſeveral Serpents as *Amſterdam* is? You may be what Devil you will, ſo you puſh not the States with your Horns.

24. Whether the *Dutch* place their Republick in a higher eſteem than Heaven it ſelf, by their boundleſs Toleration; and had rather croſs upon God than it? For whoſoever diſturbs the Civil Government, is liable to puniſh-

ment, but the Decrees of Heaven, and Sanctions of the Deity, any one may break uncheck't by profeſſing what falſe Religion he pleaſe.

Laſtly, Whether they had not rather keep an old fault, in which they diſcover manifold and manifeſt errors, than in an eaſie change to meet a certain Remedy?

His

His Majeſties Propriety and Dominion *over the* Britiſh *Seas clearly aſſerted; And ſome other of the* Dutch *Inſolencies detected.*

IT is eaſie to be proved by the Ancient Interpreters of the *Moſaical* Law, That the Sea is no whit leſs capable of private Dominion, than the Land. In *Numbers* you ſhall find it expreſly written, *And let your borders be the Great Sea*; that is (as the

bins comment on the place) the Main Ocean and its Islands.

You may read, that *Pompey* the Great, being Admiral of a great Navy, had a Commission given him by the Senate, as absolute Lord of the Sea; nay many of the *Roman* Historians have called the Sea their Sea, because it was in subjection to, being wholly subdued by, the *Roman* Power. *Thy borders are in the midst or heart of the Sea*, saith the Prophet *Ezekiel* of the *Tyrians*: and it is affirmed in ancient History, That the City of *Tyre* built by *Agenor*, made not only the Neighbouring-Sea, but what Seas soever her Ships sailed in, to be of her Dominion.

There was an ancient Custom used in the East, That when great Kings had a design to bring any Nation

Nation under their power, they commanded Water and Earth, the pledges of Empire and Dominion, to be delivered unto them; conceiving that the command of the Sea, as well as of the Land, was ſignified by ſuch a Token.

And if we take a view of theſe late times, as to the Rights and Cuſtoms of Forreign Nations, we ſhall find, that the Common-wealth of *Venice* hath enjoyed the Dominion of the *Adriatique-Sea* for many Ages. The *Tuſcans* to this day have an Abſolute Dominion in the *Tyrhene-Sea*; and thoſe of *Genoa*, in the *Lyguſtick*.

To conclude: That the Dominion of the Sea is admitted amongſt thoſe things that are lawful, and received into the Cuſtoms of Nations, is ſo far from contradiction, that nothing at all can be

found to controul it in the Customs of our later times, unless it be by the Encroaching *Hollander*, who bordering so near our shores, hath done, and doth endeavour to violate the Right of his Most Sacred Majesty, under the pretence of Civil Community. Besides, it is most evident from the Custom of all Times, That Commerce and free Passage hath ever been so limited by Princes in their Territories; that is, either granted or denied, according to the various concernments of the Publick Good. Princes are concerned to be wary and careful, that they admit no such Strangers, or Forreign Commerce, where the Common-wealth may receive any damage thereby.

Some Oppugners to the *Mare Clausum* introduce this Argument, That the Water is open to All, and therefore by Law it must be open at all times to all men. What

a trifle

a trifle is this? Before the distribution of things, there was no Land which did not lie open to All, before it came under particular possession. If the *Hollanders* should object this Argument against our Dominion over the Narrow Seas, I would ask them the reason of their Custom in *Delphland*, called *Jus Grutæ*, which hath ever been under the care of those Officers called in *Dutch*, *Pluymgraven*, whereby the Beer-Brewers are obliged to pay the hundredth part for the use of those Waters.

Having thus in general given you an account, That almost amongst all Nations there hath been allowed a private Dominion of the Sea: We shall now come nearer home, and inform you, That the ancient *Brittains* did Enjoy and Possess the Sea as Lords thereof, before they were subjected to the *Roman* Power. We find no History

of *Britain* to which any credit ought to be given, elder than the time of *Julius Cæsar*; at whose comming we find the *Britains* used the Sea as their own for Navigation and Fishing; and withal permitted none besides Merchants to sail into the Island without their leave; nor any man at all to sound or view their Sea-coasts or Harbours,

Amongst several Kings of old, that not only ruled this Land, but had also Dominion over the Sea, I find none more potent than King *Edgar*; who possessing an absolute Dominion of the Seas, sailed round it once a year, and secured it with a constant Guard of ships, of which, as is reported, he had Four thousand eight hundred stout ones; and what Dominion this was King *Edgar* had as absolute Lord of the Sea, appeareth in these words, *I Edgar King of* England, *and of all the Kings of the Islands, and of all the*

the Ocean lying about Brittain, *and of all the Nations that are included within the circuit*, &c.

After him, King *Canutus* left a teſtimony, whereby he moſt expreſly aſſerted the Sea to be a part of his Dominion: for placing himſelf by the Sea-ſide on *Southampton* ſhore, he is reported to have made trial of the Seas obedience in this manner: *Thou O Sea, art under my Dominion, as the Land alſo which I ſit upon is mine: therefore I command thee not to wet the feet or garments of thy Soveraign.* Although the event did not anſwer his expectation, yet by this he profeſſed himſelf to be Soveraign of the Seas as well as of the Land.

There is nothing more clear, than that the Kings of *England* have been accuſtomed to conſtitute Governours, who had a charg, to guard the *Engliſh* Sea, and theſe were called *Cuſtodes Maritimi.* In this number you ſhall find in

Parliamentary Rolls of the 48 of *Hen.* 3. *Thomas de Moleton*, who is called Captain and Guardian of the Sea; this Title was afterwards changed into *Admiral*, in the days of *Edward* the third: The principal end of calling that Parliament, was concerning the preservation of Peace both by Land and Sea; giving us to understand, that the Land and Sea together, made one entire Body of the Kingdom of *England*.

And that the Dominion of the Seas is properly in the Power and Jurisdiction of the King, may appear by those Tributes and Customes that were imposed and payed for the guard and protection of those Seas; and this was paid to the Reign of King *Stephen*. Since, Subsidies have been demanded of the people in Parliament upon the same account.

Neither was this imposed only on the *English*, but also upon the ships

ſhips of Forreigners, every Veſſel paying after the rate of ſix pence a Tun that paſſed by, ſuch ſhips only excepted that brought Merchandize out of *Flanders*. If a Veſſel were employed to fiſh for Herrings, it payed ſix pence a week for every Tun; if for other fiſh, ſo much was to be paid every three weeks; as they who brought Coles from *Newcaſtle* to *London*, every three months. Mr. *Selden* that learned Antiquary affirmeth, That before a Court of Delegates in *France*, in expreſs terms it hath been acknowledged, That the King of *England* hath ever been Lord not only of the Sea, but of the Iſlands therein contained, upon the account of being King of *England*.

But to give greater light to this truth, we may from ſeveral Records produce many teſtimonies, That the Kings of *England* have given leave to Forreigners, upon requeſt,

requeſt, to paſs through their ſeas, There are innumerable Letters of ſafe conduct in the Records, eſpecially of *Henry* the fifth and ſixth, and it is worthy of obſervation, that thoſe Letters were directed by thoſe Kings to their Governors, or Sea-Admirals, Vice-Admirals, and Sea-Captains.

And to clear all at once: The Kings of *England* have ſuch an abſolute Dominion in the Engliſh ſeas, that they have called the Sea it ſelf their Admiralty: and this we find in a Commiſſion of *Edward* the Third, the Title whereof is *de Navibus Areſtandis & Capiendis.*

And as a freedom of Paſſage, ſo a liberty of Fiſhing, hath been obtained by Petition from the Kings of *England.* We read that *Henry* the ſixth gave leave to the *French*, and other Forreigners, ſometimes for a year, ſometimes but for ſix months, to go and fiſh throughout his ſeas, provided that the

the Fiſhing-boats and Buſſes, exceeded not the burthen of thirty Tuns; and if any Forreigners whatever ſhould moleſt or diſturb any of the King's ſubjects as they were fiſhing, they were forthwith to loſe their Licenſe, and the benefit thereof.

In the Eaſtern Sea, which waſheth the Coaſts of *York-ſhire*, it hath been an ancient cuſtom for the *Hollanders* and *Zelanders* to obtain leave by petitioning the Governour of *Scarborough* Caſtle. *It is worth the while* (ſaith the Reverend Mr. *Cambden*) *to obſerve what an extraordinary gain the* Hollanders *do make of fiſhing on the* Engliſh *Seas, having firſt obtained leave from the Caſtle of* Scarborough; *for the* Engliſh *have ever granted them leave to fiſh, reſerving alwayes the Honour and Priviledg to themſelves, but through Negligence reſigning the Profit to Strangers.* King *James* took ſpecial care

that

that no Forreigner ſhould fiſh on the *Engliſh* or *Iriſh* ſeas, without leave firſt obtained; and every year at the leaſt this leave was renewed by the Commiſſioners for that purpoſe at *London*.

A remarkable Example of Fiſhing in this nature we find in the days of *Henry* the Fourth. An Agreement was made between the Kings of *England* and *France*, That the ſubjects of both Kingdoms might freely fiſh throughout part of that Sea which is bounded on this ſide by the Ports of *Scarborough* and *Southampton*, and on the other ſide by the Coaſt of *Flanders*, and the mouth of the River *Seine*; the time was alſo limited betwixt *Autumn* and the beginning of *January*. And that the *French* might ſecurely enjoy the benefit of this Agreement, the King of *England* ſent Letters to all his Sea-Captains and Commanders.

By

By this we may plainly ſee, that theſe Limits wholly excluded the *French* from that part of the Sea which lieth towards the Weſt and South-Weſt; as alſo that which lieth North-Eaſt of them, as being ſo limited by our *Henry* at his own pleaſure, as ſole Lord and Soveraign of the Whole.

There is amongſt the Records of *Edward* the firſt, an Inſcription, *pro Hominibus Hollandiæ*, &c. for the men of *Holland*, *Zealand*, and *Frieſland*, to have leave to fiſh near *Yarmouth*; the King's Letter for their protection runneth in theſe Words.

The King to his Beloved and truſty John de Butelarte, *Warden of his Port of* Jernemuth (now called *Yarmouth*) *Greeting: For as much as we have been certified, that many men out of the parts of* Holland, Zealand, *and* Frieſland, *who are in amity with us, intend now to come and fiſh in our Seas near unto*

unto Iernemuth; *We command you, That publick Proclamation be made once or twice every week, that no perſon whatſoever employed abroad in our ſervice, preſume to cauſe any injury, trouble, damage, hinderance, or grievance, to be done unto them; but rather, when they ſtand in need, that you give them adviſe and aſſiſtance in ſuch manner, that they may fiſh and purſue their own advantage without any let or impediment; In teſtimony whereof, we have cauſed theſe Letters to be made Patents, and to continue in force till after the Feaſt of St.* Martins *next enſuing.*

Here you ſee that the King granteth a Protection to fiſh; and he limits it within the ſpace of two moneths. He alone alſo protected the fiſher-men on the *German* Coaſt; nor might the Fiſhermen uſe any other Veſſels than what were preſcribed by our Kings. Upon which accounts all kinds

kinds of fiſhing was ſometimes prohibited, and ſometimes admitted; this reſtriction being added, That they ſhould fiſh only in ſuch Veſſels as were under the burden of thirty Tuns. And this appears by the Letters of King *Edward* the third concerning the Laws of fiſhing, which were directed unto the Governours of ſeveral Ports and Towns on the Eaſtern ſhore: the words are theſe.

For as much as we have given leave and licence to the Fiſhermen of the Neighbouring-Ports, and to others who ſhall be willing to come unto them for the benefit of fiſhing, that they may fiſh and make their own advantage with Ships and Boats under the burden of Thirty Tuns, any Prohibition or Command of ours to the contrary notwithſtanding. We command you to permit the Fiſhermen of the ſaid Towns and others who ſhall be willing to come

come to the ſaid places for the benefit of Fiſhing, to fiſh and make their own advantage with Ships and Boats, under the burden of thirty Tun, without any let or impediment; any Prohibitions or Commands of ours made to the contrary in any wiſe notwithſtanding.

This is evident alſo in the Records of King *Edward* the fourth; for he inveſted three perſons with Naval Power, whoſe Office it was to guard and protect the Fiſhermen upon the Coaſts of *Norfolk* and *Suffolk*; and the charges of the Guard were defrayed by the Fiſhermen of the ſaid Seas at the pleaſure of the King of *England*. Neither were any perſons admitted to a Partnerſhip in this kind of Guard, except thoſe who were appointed by the King of *England*; leſt by this means perhaps it might derogate from the *Engliſh* Right; which is a manifeſt ſign and

and evidence of their Dominion and Poſſeſſion of the place.

And this may yet more clearly appear by the Limits and Laws uſually ſet by our King to ſuch Forreigners as were at enmity with each other, but with amity with the *Engliſh*: and to this effect is the Proclamation of *King James*; who having made peace with all Nations, did give equal Protection to the *Spaniards* and the *United Netherlands*, at that time exerciſing acts of great hoſtility one againſt another: *Our pleaſure* (ſaith he) *and commandment is to all our Officers and Subjects by Sea and Land, That they ſhall prohibit as much as in them lieth, all hovering of Men of Warr of either* Spaniard *or* Hollander *near to the entry of any of our Coaſts or Havens: and that they ſhall reſcue and ſuccour all Merchants and others that ſhall fall within the danger of any ſuch*

as

as ſhall await our Coaſts.

And it is further to be obſerved, that as our Kings have very often commanded, that all manner of perſons ſhould ceaſe from hoſtility throughout all the places extended into their Territories by ſea: ſo they indulged the like priviledg for ever throughout the more Neighbouring-coaſts of the *French* ſhore, That all manner of perſons, though enemies one to another, ſhould ſecurely ſail to and fro, as it were under the wings of an Arbitrator or Moderator of the Sea; ſo ſhould freely uſe the Sea, according to ſuch ſpaces and limits as they were pleaſed at firſt to appoint; which, without doubt, is a clear evidence of Dominion.

In the next place I ſhall cite ſome of the Publick Records kept in the Tower of *London*, in which the Dominion of the Seas is expreſly

preſly aſſerted, as belonging to the Kings of *England*.

We read that *Edward* the third, in his Commiſſions given to *Geofry de Say*, Governour or Commander of the Southern and Weſtern Seas, and to *John de Norwich* of the Northern; expreſſeth himſelf in theſe following words:

We calling to mind, that our Progenitors the Kings of England, *having before theſe times been Lords of the Engliſh Sea on every ſide, yea, and Defenders thereof againſt the Invaſions of Enemies; do ſtrictly require and charge you by the Duty and Allegiance wherein you ſtand bound, That you ſet forth to Sea with the ſhips of the Ports, and the other ſhips that are ready; and that you arreſt the other ſhips under our Command; and that with all diligence you make ſearch after the Gallies and ſhips of Warr that are abroad againſt Us, and that ſtoutly*

ſtoutly and manfully you ſet upon them, if they ſhall preſume to bend their courſe to any part of our Dominions, or the Coaſts of Scotland, *&c.*

We read alſo in the Reign of the ſaid King, in the preferring a certain Bill in Parliament (which is the voice of the State of the Realm) that he was uſually accounted King or Soveraign of the Seas by all Nations; written in *French*, and thus Tranſlated into *Engliſh*.

The Nation of the Engliſh *were ever in the Ages paſt, renowned for Sea-Affairs in all Countries near the Seas: and they had alſo ſo numerous a Navy, that the people of all Countreys eſteemed and called the King of* England, *the King or Soveraign of the Sea.*

Another

Another Teſtimony to the ſame effect we read in the Parliamentary Records of *Henry* the fifth, where the tenour of the bill runs after this manner:

The Commons do pray, That ſeeing our Soveraign Lord the King, and his illuſtrious Progenitors, have ever been Lords of the Sea; and now ſeeing through God's Grace it is now come to paſs, that our Lord the King is Lord of the ſhores on both ſides the Sea, ſuch a Tribute may be impoſed on all Strangers paſſing through the ſaid Sea, for the benefit and advantage of our ſaid Lord the King, as may ſeem agreeable to Reaſon for the ſafeguard of the ſaid Sea. The Anſwer ſubſcribed to the Bill was, *Soit aviſe par le Roy*: for the King at that time reſided in *France*, being Lord of that Countrey as well by Conqueſt as Inheritance.

Many other Teſtimonies in this nature

nature may be produced, which to avoid prolixity I must omit.

Neither hath the High Court of Parliament only given this attestation to our Kings as Supream and Soveraign of the Seas; but to confirm it, all the Judges of the Land were consulted herein, and all jointly averred, That the King's Sea-Dominion, which they called the Ancient Superiority of the Sea, was a matter out of question his Right.

Neither is this Truth confirmed only by our Laws, but by our Medals. There hath been a piece of Gold often coined by our Kings, called a *Rose-Noble*, upon the one side whereof was stamped a Ship floating in the Sea, and a King armed with a Sword and Shield, sitting in the Ship it self as in a Throne.

But what need we labour to produce so many Testimonies at home, from our Records in the Tower,

Tower, and other places; from our High Courts of Parliament, from our Laws, from our Coyn, and from our Hiſtories, to prove this Truth, ſince it is acknowledged even by Forreigners themſelves, whom it moſt concerneth, by ſtriking ſail according to the ancient cuſtom, by every ſhip of any Forreign Nation whatſoever, to any King's Man of War, which is done not only in Honour to the King of *England*, but alſo in acknowledgment of his Soveraignty and Dominion at ſea. The Antiquity of this Cuſtom, and that it hath been in uſe above theſe four hundred years, may appear by this following Teſtimony.

At *Haſtings*, a Town ſcituate on the ſhore of *Suſſex*, it was decreed by King *John*, and the aſſent of his Peers, in the ſecond year of his reign, That if the Governour or Commander of the King's Navy, in his Naval-Expe-

ditions, ſhall meet with any Ships whatſoever at ſea, laden or empty, that ſhall refuſe to ſtrike their ſails at the command of the King's Governour or Admiral, they are to be looked on as Enemies, &c. Mr. *Selden* in his excellent Treatiſe called *Mare Clauſum*, ſaith, *If any ſhip whatſoever had not acknowledged the Dominion of the King of* England *in his own ſea, by ſtriking ſail, they were not to be protected on any account of Amity, and Penalties were appointed by the Kings of* England *in the ſame manner, as if mention were made concerning a crime committed in ſome Territory of his Land.*

But above all that yet hath been ſaid, There cannot be produced a more convincing Argument than the acknowledgment of the Sea-Dominion of the King of *England* by very many of our Neighbouring-Nations.

At what time the Agreement was made between *Edward* the first of *England*, and *Philip* the *Fair* of *France*, *Reyner Grimbald* Governour of the *French* Navy, intercepted and spoiled on the *English* Seas the Goods of many Merchants that were going to *Flanders*; and not contented with the depredation of their Commodities, he imprisoned their Persons: Hereupon a Bill was exhibited against the said *Reyner Grimbald*, and managed by Procurators on the behalf of the Peers and People of the *English* Nation; with these were joined the Procurators of most Nations bordering upon the Sea throughout *Europe*; all these instituted a Complaint; and all these Complainants in their Bill do jointly affirm, That the King of *England* and his Predecessors have time out of mind, and without controversie, enjoyed the Soveraignty and Dominion of the

English Seas, and the Isles belonging to the same, by right of their Realm of *England*: also, that they have had, and have the Soveraign Guard thereof, with all manner of Cognizance and Jurisdiction, in doing Right and Justice according to the said Laws, Ordinances, and Prohibitions, with all other matters which may concern the exercise of Soveraign Dominion in the said places.

But more particularly, We do find an acknowledgment of the Sea-Dominion of the Kings of *England*, made by the *Flemmings* themselves in the Parliament of *England*, in the Reign of *Edward* the second; the Records of the Parliament speak it thus:

In the fourteenth year of the Reign of *Edward* the second, there appeared certain Embassadors of the Earl of *Flanders* to treat about the reformation of some injuries they received: and

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as ſoon as the ſaid Ambaſſadors had been admitted by our Lord the King to treat of the ſaid Injuries, amongſt other particulars they required, That the ſaid Lord the King would at his own ſuit by virtue of his Royal Authority, cauſe enquiry to be made, and do juſtice about a depredation by the ſubjects of *England* upon the *Engliſh* Seas, taking Wines and other Commodities from certain Merchants of *Flanders*; alledging, that the ſaid Merchandizes taken from the *Flemmings*, were brought within the Realm and Juriſdiction of the King; and that it belonged to the King to ſee Juſtice done, in regard that *He is Lord of the Sea.*

In the ſeventh year of King *James*, this Right was very ſtrenuouſly aſſerted by Proclamation, and all perſons excluded from the uſe of the Seas upon our Coaſts, without particular Licenſe; but

the *Hollander* continuing his encroachments till after the death of that wise and learned King: *CHARLES* the First of ever blessed memory, issued a Proclamation for restraint of fishing upon his Seas and Coasts without License, in these terms:

'Whereas our Father of blessed memory, King *James*, did in 'the seventh year of his Reign of '*Great Britain*, set forth a Proclamation touching Fishing, 'whereby for the many important 'Reasons expreſt therein, all persons of what Nation or quality 'soever (being not his natural 'born subjects) were restrained 'from fishing upon any the Coasts 'and Seas of *Great Britain*, *Ireland*, and the rest of the Isles 'adjacent, where most usually 'heretofore fishing had been, until 'they had orderly demanded and 'obtained Licenses from our said 'Father,

'Father, or his Commiſſioners in 'that behalf, upon pain of ſuch 'chaſtiſement as ſhould be fit to 'be inflicted on ſuch wilful offen-'ders: Since which time, albeit 'neither Our Father, nor Our Self, 'have made any conſiderable 'execution of the ſaid Proclama-'tion, but have with much pati-'ence expected a voluntary con-'formity of our Neighbours and 'Allies to ſo juſt and reaſonable 'Prohibitions and Directions as 'are contained in the ſame.

'And now finding by experi-'ence, that all the Inconveniences 'which occaſioned that Procla-'mation, are rather encreaſed than 'abated: We, being very ſenſi-'ble of the Premiſes, and well 'knowing how far We are obli-'ged to maintain in Honour the 'Rights of our Crown, eſpecially 'of ſo great conſequence, have 'thought it neceſſary by the Ad-'vice of our Privy-Council, to

'renew the aforesaid Restraint of 'Fishing upon Our aforesaid 'Coasts and Seas without License 'first obtained from Us: And by 'these Presents do make publick 'Declaration, That Our Resolu-'tion is (at times convenient) to 'keep such a competent strength 'of shipping upon Our seas, as may '(by God's blessing) be sufficient 'both to hinder such farther En-'croachments upon Our Regali-'ties, and Assist and Protect those 'Our good Friends and Allies 'who shall henceforth by vertue 'of Our Licenses (to be first ob-'tained) endeavour to take the 'benefit of Fishing upon Our 'Coasts and Seas in the places ac-'customed.

Given at our Palace of Westminster, *&c.*

This Proclamation being set forth in the year 1636, served to speak the intent of those Naval Prepa-

Preparations made before in the year 1635, which were ſo numerous and well provided, that our *Netherland*-Neighbours being touched with the apprehenſion of ſome great deſign in hand for the Intereſt of *England* by Sea, and of the guilt that lay upon their own Conſciences for their bold Encroachments, ſoon betrayed their jealouſies and fears, and in them a ſenſe of their offences, before ever the Proclamation was made publick; as I might ſhew at large if it were requiſite. Inſtead whereof, I ſhall only inſert Secretary *Cook*'s Letter, written to Sir *William Boſwel* the King's Reſident then at the *Hague*; in which Letter you will underſtand the grounds and reaſons of that great Naval-Preparation, and the King's reſolution to maintain the Right derived from his Anceſtors in the Dominion of the Seas; and therefore I have here rendred a true

Copy of it so far as concerns this business, as most pertinent to our purpose.

SIR,

BY your Letters, and otherwise, I perceive many jealousies and discourses are raised upon the preparation of His Majesties Fleet; which is now in such forwardness, we doubt not but within a Month it will appear at sea. It is therefore expedient both for your satisfaction and direction, to inform you particularly what was the occasion, and what is His Majesties intention in this work.

First, We hold it a Principle not to be denied, That the King of *Great Britain* is a Monarch at Land and Sea, to the full extent of His Dominions; and that it concerneth Him as much to maintain His Soveraignty in all the *British Seas*, as within His Three Kingdoms; because without that, these

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cannot be kept ſafe, nor He preſerve His Honour and due reſpects with other Nations. But commanding the Seas, He may cauſe His Neighbours, and all other Countries, to ſtand upon their guard whenſoever He thinks fit. And this cannot be doubted, that whoſoever will encroach on Him by Sea, will do it by Land alſo, when they ſee their time. To ſuch preſumption *Mare Liberum* gave the Warning-piece, which muſt be anſwered with a defence of *Mare Clauſum*; not ſo much by Diſcourſes, as by the louder language of a powerful Navy, to be better underſtood, when overſtrained Patience ſeeth no hope of preſerving her Right by any other means.

The degrees by which His Majeſties Dominion at Sea hath of later years been firſt impeached, and then queſtioned, are as conſiderable as notorious.

Firſt,

First, To cherish, and as it were to nourish our unthankful Neighbours. We gave them leave to gather Wealth and Strength upon our Coasts, in our Ports, by our Trade, and by our People. Then they were glad to invite our Merchants residence with what Priviledges they desired. Then they offered us even the Soveraignty of their Estates; and then they sued for License to fish on our Coasts, and obtained it under the Great Seal of *Scotland*, which now they suppress; and when thus by leave or by connivence they had possessed themselves of our Fishings not only in *Scotland*, but in *Ireland* and *England*; and by our Staple had raised a great stock of Trade; by these means they so encreased their Shipping and Power at Sea, that now they endure not to be kept at any distance; nay, they are grown to that confidence, to keep Guards on our Seas;

then

then to project an Office and Company of Assurance for the advancement of Trade; and withal, prohibit us free commerce even within our own Seas; and take our ships and goods, if they conform not to their Placarts.

What Insolencies and Cruelties they have committed against us heretofore, in *Ireland*, in *Greenland*, and in the *Indies*, is too well known to all the world. In all which, though our Sufferings and their Wrongs may seem forgotten; yet the great Interest of His Majesties Honour is still the same, and will refresh their memories as there shall be cause. For, though Charity must remit Wrongs done to private persons, yet the reflection on the Publick may make it a greater Charity to do Justice on crying Crimes. All this notwithstanding, you are not to conceive that the work of this Fleet is either Revenge or Execution of Justice.

ſtice for theſe great offences paſt, but chiefly for the future to ſtop the violent Current of that Preſumption, whereby the Men of Warr and Free booters of all Nations (abuſing the favour of His Majeſties peaceable and gracious Government, whereby he hath permitted all His Friends & Allies to make uſe of His Seas and Ports in a reaſonable and free manner, and according to his Treaties) have taken upon them the boldneſs not only to come confidently at all times into all his Ports and Rivers, but to convey their Merchants Ships as high as his chief City, and then to caſt Anchor cloſe upon his Magazines, and to contemn the Commands of His Officers when they required a farther diſtance.

But, which is more intolerable, have aſſaulted and taken one another within His Majeſties Chamber, and within His River, to the

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scorn and contempt of His Dominion and Power. And this being of late years an ordinary practice which we have endeavoured in vain to reform by the ways of Justice, and Treaties; the World I think will now be satisfied, that we have reason to look about us. And no wise man will doubt, that it is high time to put our selves in this Equipage on the Seas, and not to Suffer the Stage of Action to be taken from Us for want of Our appearance.

So you see the general ground upon which our Counsels stand. In particular you may take notice, and publish as cause requires, That His Majesty by this Fleet intendeth not a rupture with any Prince or State, nor to infringe any point of His Treaties; but resolveth to continue and maintain that happy Peace wherewith God hath blessed His Kingdom, and to which all His Actions and Negotiations have

hitherto tended, as by your own Instructions you may fully understand. But withall, considering that Peace must be maintained by the Arm of Power, which only keeps down Warr by keeping up Dominion; His Majesty thus provoked, finds it necessary, even for His own defence and safety, to reassume and keep his ancient and undoubted Right in the Dominion of these Seas, and to suffer no other Prince or State to encroach upon Him, thereby assuming to themselves or their Admirals any Soveraign Command; but to force them to perform due homage to His Admirals and Ships, and to pay them acknowledgments, as in former times they did.

He will also set open and protect the free Trade of his Subjects and Allies, and give them such safe Conduct and Convoy as they shall reasonably require. He will suffer no other Fleets or Men of Warr

to keep any Guard upon theſe Seas, or there to offer violence, or take Prizes or Booties, or to give interruption to any lawful intercourſe. In a word, His Majeſty is reſolved, as to do no wrong, ſo to do Juſtice both to His Subjects and Friends within the limits of His Seas. And this is the Real and Royal Deſign of this Fleet.

Whitehall, April 16. 1635.

Your aſſured Friend and Servant,

JOHN COOK.

Nay farthermore, you may ſee the Dominion of His Majeſty in His *Britiſh Seas*, clearly repreſented, aſſerted, and fully proved, by that Propriety of Title and Soveraignty of Power which the Duke of *Venice* exerciſeth on the *Adriatick Sea*, if you will conſult Mr. *Howel* in his *Commonwealth of Venice*, which by the manner of Preſcription, the Conſent of Hiſtories,

ſtories, and even by the Confeſſion of their Adverſaries themſelves, is almoſt the ſame with His Majeſties of *Great Britain*. But His Majeſty hath one Title more above all theirs, which is the Title of *Succeſſive Inheritance*; confirmed as well by the Law of Nature, as of Nations; and is ſo much the more conſiderable, in regard of the infinite advantages of the Profits of it, as the *Britiſh* Ocean in its latitude and circumference exceedeth the ſmall boundaries of the Gulph of *Venice*.

Yet ſo it is, that the Indulgence of the Kings of *England* to their Neighbouring-Nations, eſpecially to the *Hollanders*, by giving them too much liberty, hath encouraged them to aſſume a liberty to themſelves; and what at the firſt was but a Licenſe, they improve into a Cuſtom, and make that Cuſtom their Authority; inſomuch, that ſome of the moſt buſie of them have

have openly declar'd againſt the King's Propriety on the *Britiſh Seas*: Amongſt theſe is one *Hugo Grotius*, a Gentleman of great Ingenuity, but in this particular ſo inclined to obey the importunities and ſerve the intereſts of his Countrey-men, that he diſobliged himſelf of the *Dutch*, and moreover (to ſpeak the truth) of his Conſcience it ſelf: for if you look into his *Sylvæ*, upon the firſt Inauguration of King *James*, he is pleaſed to expreſs himſelf in theſe words, *Tria Sceptra Profundi in Magnum cojere Ducem*; which is, that the Rights of the *Engliſh*, *Scottiſh*, and *Iriſh Seas*, are united under one Scepter: neither is he ſatisfied with this bare profeſſion; *Sume animos a Rege tuo, quis det jura Mari*, Take courage from the King, who giveth Laws unto the Seas. In the ſame Book in the contemplation of ſo great a Power, he concludeth, *Finis hic eſt, qui ſine caret*, &c. This

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is an End beyond an End, a bound that knoweth no bound, which even the Winds and the Waves muſt ſubmit unto.

But with what Ingratitude have the *Dutch* anſwered the many Royal Favours which the Kings of *England* have almoſt perpetually conferred on them! If there be no Monſter greater than Ingratitude, what Monſters are theſe men? who of late are ſo far from acknowledging their thankfulneſs, that (like Vipers) they would feed upon and conſume thoſe bowels which did afford them life and ſpirit.

We may obſerve, that in their loweſt condition (which is moſt ſuitable to the name of their abode, called the *Low-Countreys*) they petitioned to the Majeſty of the Queen of *England*; whoſe Royal Heart and Hand being always open to thoſe that were *Diſtreſſed* (eſpecially thoſe that were

were her Neighbours) upon the account of Religion; she sent them Threescore thousand pound in the year 1572; and presently after, there followed Four Regiments of Foot, and after them the Warr encreasing, there were sent over Col. *North*, Col *Cotton*, Col. *Candish*, and Col. *Norris*, with other Persons of Quality; who for the Honour of the *English* Nation, made in that Warr excellent Demonstrations of their Valour, and redeem'd the *Dutch* from the Power of those who otherwise would have brought them to a better understanding of their duties.

At the last the Prince of *Orange* being slain, presently after the death of the Duke of *Alanson* (Brother to *Henry* the Third of *France*) the Queen of *England* sent over to them *Robert* Duke of *Leicester*, with great provision both of Men and Money, accompanied with divers of the Nobility and Gentry

Gentry of good account; and although the ſaid Earl not long afterwards returned into *England*, and the affairs of the *Hollander* were doubtful till the fatal battel at *Newport*; yet Queen *Elizabeth* of ever bleſſed memory, out of her unſpeakable goodneſs to the *Diſtreſſed*, and to thoſe that ſuffered for Religion, did (as long as ſhe lived) aſſiſt the *Hollanders* both with Men and Moneys; ſhe gave them hope in deſpair, gave them ſtrength when weak; and with the charity of Her Princely Hand did ſupport them when fallen. And although the *Hollanders* do ungratefully alledg, *That it was a benefit great enough for the Engliſh to aſſiſt them in Reaſon of State, becauſe by ſo doing they kept out a War from their own Countrey.*

It is moſt certain, that at that time the *Engliſh* had no cauſe to fear a War at all, but only for their *Cauſe*, and for *the taking their parts:*

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for it was for their Cauſe that the *Engliſh* in the year 1571, had ſeized upon the ſum of Six hundred thouſand Ducats on the Weſt of *England*, being the Money deſigned from *Spain* to the *Duke d' Alva*, for the advancement of the *Spaniſh* Intereſts in the *Netherlands*.

And although the *Hollanders* do further alledg in their own excuſe, *That they were ſo grateful, as that they offered unto the Queen of* England *the Soveraignty of the* Netherlands, *which ſhe would not accept; and therefore none of their fault that She obtained it not.*

It is in reaſon truly anſwered, That the Queen of *England* well knowing that ſhe was in danger to draw a perpetual War on her Self and her Succeſſors by the accepting ſuch a Gift to which She had no right, did wiſely refuſe their Liberality; and yet for all that, She continued to aid them without that chargeable obligation.

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The *Hollanders* do further alledg, *That the Queen of* England *had the Cautionary Towns of the* Brill *and* Flushing, *with other places, delivered into her hands.*

It is true, She had so, and thereby only enjoyed the benefit of being at the greater expence of Men and Money. But pray take notice, that most certain it is, That the *Hollander* had no sooner made a *Truce* with the King of *Spain*, and the Arch-Duke *Albertus*, but he began presently to set the *English* at naught, and take the Bridle out of their hands; whereupon immediately ensued the bringing of *English* Clothes died and dressed, into *Holland*, and the adjoining Provinces, without ever making the King of *England*, or his Ambassador Leiger at the *Hague*, acquainted therewith.

And to make amends for this their sawcy and insolent affront, in a more high and peremptory way they

they demeaned themſelves to King *James* himſelf. For whereas the Duke of *Lennox*, as Admiral of *Scotland*, had by order from the Majeſty of King *James* in the year 1616, ſent one Mr. *Brown* to demand of the *Hollanders* (then fiſhing on the Coaſts of *Scotland*) a certain ancient duty called *Size Herring*: they began to conteſt with him about it; and after a long diſputation, they paid it as in former times it had been accuſtomed; but not without ſome affronting terms, *That it was the laſt time it ſhould be paid.*

And it is moſt certain, that the ſame Gentleman coming the year following with the ſame Authority and Commandment with one only Ship of his Majeſties to demand the Duty aforeſaid, but by them he was denied it; who as plainly as peremptorily told him, *That they were commanded by the States of* Holland *to pay it no more*

to the King of England. Of which he took witneſs according to his Order from His Majeſty. This taking of witneſs did ſo ſtartle them, that without any more ado they pretended an Order to arreſt him; and ſo they carried him into *Holland*, where a while he was detain'd.

Nay, a little while after, ſuch was their inſufferable abuſe, that when Mr. *Archibald Ranthim*, a *Scotch* Gentleman, and reſiding at *Stockholm* in *Sweden*, where he ſollicited for ſome ſums of money due to the *Engliſh* Merchants; at the ſame time in the ſame City was one *Vandyke* lying there as an Agent for the States of *Holland*, who ſaid unto ſome principal perſons of the *Swedes*, *That they need not be ſo haſty in paying any moneys to the ſubjects of the King of* England, *or to give them any high reſpect, becauſe the ſaid King's Promiſes were not to be believed, nor his threatnings*

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to be feared. For which vile and insolent speeches being afterwards challenged by Mr. *Ranthim*, he had no better excuse than to say, He was drunk when he spake those words: And by this means his excuse of playing the Beast, did excuse him from playing the Man.

Now from these insolent Affronts by words, let us proceed, and come to what they have done by deeds, more than what I have already declared in my preceding Discourse; where, in the first place, we may observe in their rude demeanour to our *English* Nation in the Northern Seas, on the Coasts of *Greenland*, and those parts, about the fishing for Whales, and the Commodity of Trayn-oyl; where violently they have offered unpardonable abuses in an hostile manner, driving the *English* away, to their great loss and prejudice. Their pride of heart was so high, that it would not give their Rea-

ſon leave to apprehend, That Fiſhing at Sea is free for every man, where it is not upon the Coaſt of any Countrey unto which the Dominion of the Sea belongeth by ancient Prerogative.

And yet all this is but inconſiderable in regard of their uſage of our *Engliſh* in the *Eaſt-Indies*, where in open Hoſtility they have as fiercely ſet upon them, as if they had been moſt mortal Enemies, having in ſeveral Encounters ſlain many of our Men, and ſunk ſundry of our Ships; and when they had taken our men Priſoners, they would uſe them in the ſight of the *Indians* in ſuch a contemptible and diſdainful manner, as if at their own home, and all places elſe, the *Engliſh* in reſpect of them were but a ſordid and ſlaviſh Nation, and the *Hollanders* were either their Superiors, and might uſe them at their own pleaſure; or the *Engliſh* were ſo ſpiritleſs, or ſo unpow-

unpowerful, that they durſt not be revenged, but quietly muſt put up all the Affronts and Injuries which they received at their hands.

And as for the commodious and profitable Trade which the *Engliſh* have had in *Muſcovy* for above theſe fourſcore years, and ſome other Countreys that lye upon the Eaſt and North, which the *Hollanders* have now gotten quite out of their hands, to the great grief and prejudice of ſeveral Merchants in *London*; What ſhall we ſay, ſeeing not long ſince they have been acting the ſame again with our *Engliſh* Merchants in *Turkey*? And it is a practiſe ſo uſual with them to ſpoil the Trade of other Nations, that when they cannot find any occaſion to do it, they will ſhow a nature ſo wretchedly barbarous, that they will not ſtick to ſpoil one another. And yet all this proceedeth out of an ignoble and ſordid ſpirit; for let them arrive to what wealth they

will, they can never be the Masters of a Noble and Generous Disposition.

Had it not been for their neighbouring-Nation of the *English*, they had never arrived to the liberty of a Free-State; yet so ingrateful have they been, that they have endeavoured to forget all the Obligations of Humanity, and have digged into the very bowels of those who did preserve them. So many Examples of this nature may be instanced, that I am forced to omit them for want of room. The Perfidiousness and Ingratitude of the *Hollanders* to the *English*, may be traced all along ever since they shook off their obedience to the King of *Spain*, even unto this present time. But we will pass from their Hypocrisie and Cruelty practised abroad, and look on their actions at home.

How, almost but the other day, did they labour to impose upon His Ma-

Majesty, and Sir *George Downing* his *Envoy Extraordinary*, by delivering Papers to many Publick Ministers of State at the *Hague*; as if his *Majesty* and his *Envoy* had been pre-possessed with them, when they had not the least notice of any such thing?

How have they seemed to be most desirous of Peace, when at the same time they have omitted no days, even those appropriated for holy duties, to drive on their Preparations for War? How have they stood in defence of their violent and unjust proceedings; and instead of redressing their Injuries, they have encreased them?

About the year 1662, they concluded a *Treaty* with the *English*; and having engaged, *That better order should for the future be observed*; they have since heaped new Injuries, endeavouring the utter overthrow of all the Trade of his *Majesty*'s subjects in the *East*

and *West-Indies*; witneſs our ſhips the *Hopewell*, *Leopard*, and ſome others in the *East-Indies*; and the *Charles*, the *James*, the *Mary*, the *Sampſon*, the *Hopeful Adventurer*, and the *Speedwell*, on the Coaſt of *Africa*.

And after all theſe Acts of the higheſt Injuſtice, and their utmoſt endeavours for driving on a War, they have done, and would ſtill make the world believe, *That His Majeſty is the firſt Undertaker of it*: who from his own mouth to their Ambaſſador in *England*, and by his Injunctions to Sir *George Downing* his Miniſter in *Holland*, hath given ſo many and ſuch remarkable Demonſtrations to the contrary.

What can they ſay to the *Memorial* of the Complaints which Sir *George Downing* exhibited to the *States-General*, importing, *That in the ſpace of a very few years, almoſt twenty* Engliſh, *with their whole Lading, to a very great value, have*

have been seized upon in a very horrible manner, and the men in them most barbarously and most inhumanly treated, being put into stinking and most nasty Dungeons and Holes at Casteldelmina, *where they did lye bedded and bathed in their own excrements, having nothing but bread and water given them, and not enough of that neither to sustain Nature (their bodies being under the fury of exquisite and horrid torments); and when any of them dyed, the living and the dead were left together; and such as outliv'd that Cruelty, were exposed in the Woods to Famine, or to the mercy of wild beasts in those desolate Countries, or to be carried into captivity by the Natives; by which means several hundreds of His Majesties good Subjects have perished and been destroyed.*

And to this hour, notwithstanding all sollicitations and endeavours of his Majesty's Envoy, not

one penny of ſatisfaction can be had either for the loſs of the ſhips, or the perſons concerned in any of them; but to the contrary, they have ever ſince hindred, and ſhot at the *Engliſh* ſhips that have anchored by them.

How inhumanly and treacherouſly was one Captain *Jordan* butcher'd by them, who ſailing from *Bantam* with two ſhips, the one called the *Sampſon*, and the other the *Hound*, to the great Iſlands of *Burnew*, he diſcovered three or four *Dutch* ſhips ſtanding in for the ſame Port; and being confident that they intended no good to him, he gave order to prepare for the Encounter; fully reſolving to fight it out to the laſt man, rather than to yeild himſelf to the unmerciful hands of his inſulting and approaching Enemies. The *Dutch* ſummoned to deliver the Ships upon fair Quarter; but Captain *Jordan* (who had a great heart in a

little

little body) absolutely refused to yeild upon any condition whatever. The *Dutch* pretending to be unwilling to shed blood, called out to the *English*, and told them, That they knew well enough that little Captain *Jordan* was there; and desired them to perswade him to parley with them: The Captain being informed of it, refused to have any conference with them: whereupon they desired, that he would but shew himself on the Quarter-deck, that by a fair compliance they might stop the effusion of blood, which otherwise must follow. Whereupon Capt. *Jordan* (thinking that to speak with them could not much prejudice him) did shew himself on the Quarter-deck; and after the exchange of some few words, told them, That he knew the Justice of his Cause, and the Injustice of theirs; and was resolved to fight it out: The *Hollander*

alledg-

alledging, That their ſtrength was far greater than his; and it was rather Deſperateneſs than true Valour, to fight upon ſuch a diſadvantage. This prevailed nothing with Capt. *Jordan*, who told them, He was reſolved to fight it out, and leave the ſucceſs to God. The *Dutch* finding him untractable to their demands, held him ſtill in diſcourſe, until a Muſquet-bullet from one of their Ships laid him dead on the Quarter-deck as he was in parley with them. At that very inſtant of time, whether by Treachery, or by Accident, it is uncertain, a part of the other *Engliſh* Ship, called the *Hound*, was blown up, and many of her men mortally hurt. The amazement was ſo great, that the *Engliſh* were enforced to yeild; who having taken them, did inſtantly lade them with bolts, and did not allow them ſo much favour as they ſhowed to the Heathen.

Thus

Thus may we obſerve what Injury and Wrong we have all along ſuſtained by the *Dutch*, who have got many of thoſe Iſlands where now they have ſeated themſelves, by Cruelty and Bloodſhed, and by murthering the *Engliſh* and their Friends. Theſe indeed are ſad Relations; and though diſmal in themſelves, they are but the Prologues to their more bloody Tragedies.

But to give further proof of their Confidence and Ambition, they have publiſhed a Declaration, wherein they aſſume and challenge to themſelves a Right to that whole Coaſt, to the excluſion of all other Nations; although by Order from his Majeſty, Sir *George Downing* both in publick conferences with the Deputies of the *Lords General*, as alſo with thoſe of *Holland* in particular, hath at large remonſtrated his Majeſties Right and Intereſt in ſome part therein, having

having by his Subjects bought the ground of the King of that Countrey for a valuable Consideration, and built a Factory thereon; and yet for all this, some of the *Dutch West-India-Company* by fraud and treachery have got into the place, and no hopes of the restitution of it; for they are resolved to keep that by Violence which they have obtained by Deceit.

Moreover, What can they say for themselves concerning their stirring up the King of *Fantin* by rewards and sums of money, and supplying him with all manner of Arms and Ammunition, for the surprizing of His Majesties Castle at *Cormantin* in the *West-Indies*; so that an absolute necessity is imposed upon his Majesty and his Subjects, either of losing all that have been actually taken from them, and abandoning for ever that Trade it self, or of betaking themselves to some other way for relief.

The

The Iſland of *Polleroon* hath been ſurrendring back to the *Engliſh* ever ſince the year 1622; at which time by a ſolemn and particular Treaty it was promiſed to be done; and again, by another Treaty in the year 1654; and by an Order of the *States-General* and the *Eaſt-Indie-Company* of that Nation, in the year 1661; and again by another Treaty in the year following: and yet to this day there is not the leaſt mention of any thing Reſtored.

And ſhould any man then think it ſtrange, that his Majeſty after ſo long an experience of the Perverſneſs and Deceitfulneſs of that Nation, that he now endeavours to re-poſſeſs his Subjects of thoſe places which by the hand of Violence and Oppreſſion the *Dutch* have forced from them?

Now as for the buſineſs of the *New-Netherlands* (as they call it by I know not what Authority) it

it hath been abundantly elſewhere proved, That the ſaid Land is part of the Poſſeſſion of His Majeſties Subjects in *New-England*, which their Charter plainly and preciſely ſheweth and expreſſeth; and thoſe few *Dutch* who lived there heretofore, have lived there meerly upon the connivence and ſufferance of the *Engliſh*; which hath been permitted them ſo to do ſo long as they demeaned themſelves peaceably and quietly. But the *Dutch* not contenting themſelves therewith, have encroached more and more upon the *Engliſh*, impoſing their Laws and Cuſtoms, and endeavouring to raiſe Contributions and Exciſes on them, and in thoſe places where the *Dutch* had never been; whereupon they have been ſeveral times neceſſitated to ſend Soldiers for the repulſing them.

Since the Concluſion of the late Treaty, the *Dutch* have made new

new Incurſions upon the *Engliſh*, and given them many new provocations, and have ordained a Trial of Cauſes among themſelves, and a Proceeding by force of arms, without any appealing into *Europe* at all.

And can any Prince then think it ſtrange, if his Majeſty of *England* ſuffer his Subjects to reſcue themſelves from ſuch continual Vexations? His moſt Chriſtian Majeſty in the year 1665, was pleaſed to order his ſubjects to re-poſſeſs themſelves by force of arms of a certain place called *Cayen*, which the *French* alledged had been wrongfully kept from them, and detained by the *Weſt-India* Company of the *Netherlanders*.

We might in the next place alledg *De Ruyther*'s leaving the *Engliſh* Fleet, when with united Counſels and Forces they were to act againſt their common Enemies the Pyrates and Barbarians in the *Midland-Seas*,

Seas, according to the Treaty ſoon after his Majeſties happy Reſtauration.

We may alledg their Inſtructions given to *Van Campen* in the year 1664, at what time his Majeſty entertained not any open War againſt them; which Inſtructions was in down-right terms, *To attack and fall upon his Majeſties Subjects in the Weſt-Indies, and to carve out their own Satisfaction and Reparation.*

Laſtly, Their refuſing to ſtrike, and denying his Majeſty the Right of the Flag, even in his own ſeas: Witneſs Sir *Robert Holmes* late meeting with Eight *Dutch* Men of War convoying their *Smyrna* Fleet homewards, which had no doubt come ſhort of home, had not that brave Commander been over-power'd with Numbers; in which ſhort, but ſharp Conflict, as there was not an *Engliſh*-man which gave not large proof and demon-

ſtration of his Courage; ſo particularly, the Right Honourable the Earl of *Offery* acted wonders that day, almoſt baffling the belief of their eyes who were Spectators of his incredible Valour.

Thus I have in part drawn to the knowledg of all, the Cruelties, Ingratitudes, Injuries, and Wrongs, done unto the *Engliſh* by the Treacherous *Dutch*; yet not one hundred part of what they are, and for their hainouſneſs deſerve only a Pen of Steel to record them in the wrinkled brow of *Time*, there to remain to poſterity. And if all the Premiſes aforeſaid be not cauſe enough to provoke his Majeſty to maintain the Juſtice of his *Cauſe* by the Force of Arms, we will leave to the World, and to his Enemies themſelves to judg: And ſurely that Sword is to be feared, that ſtriketh with the Hand of *Juſtice*.

FINIS.